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REPORTS

ON THE

DISEASES IN LONDON,

PARTICULARLY

DURING THE YEARS

1796, 97, 98, 99, and 1800.

By ROBERT WILLAN, *M.D. F.A.S.*

LONDON:

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1801.

PREFACE.

A Part of the following Reports was inſerted in the Monthly Magazine for the years 1796, 1797, and in the Medical and Phyſical Journal for 1799. Many of the readers of thoſe periodical works having honoured with particular notice the ſtatements reſpecting Chronic Diſeaſes, as well as Epidemics, it was propoſed to me that the monthly accounts of them ſhould be reviſed, and republiſhed ſeparately, with any additional obſervations which might occur.

With this propoſition I have complied, finding myſelf unable, through a variety of engagements, to accompliſh another object which has been urged as a deſirable one; — to give, under ſome proper arrangement, an accurate hiſtory of the diſorders prevalent in or near London, from actual obſervation, without any bias from the conſideration of diſeaſes of other climates, and without a conſtant reference to the congeries of ſymptoms detailed by ſyſtematic writers.

In the preſent work, not only the accounts of diſeaſes for 1796, 1797, and 1799, are amplified, but Reports, entirely new, with various collateral obſervations, are added for the year 1798; alſo for 1800, a year remarkable for its temperature, and for an unuſual ſeries of complaints. Any irregularities* which appear in the liſts of diſeaſes will, I hope, be excuſed, a nice arrangement of them not having been the primary object. The generic diſtinctions and varieties muſt be principally referred to the noſology of Sauvages. In forming the three claſſes of Acute, Chronic, and Periodical Diſeaſes, the uſual plan of noſologiſts has not been obſerved. All the writers on this ſubject, influenced, perhaps, by the opinion of Sydenham,† have not only included Intermittents under the denomination of Fever, but conſidered one of their paroxyſms as an epitome of Fevers in general, the different forms of which are ſaid to conſiſt merely of a repetition

* The ſame generic titles are found ſometimes among the Chronic, ſometimes among Acute Diſeaſes, according to the ſtate of the ſymptoms.

† Sect. i. cap. 1, &c.

of

of ſuch paroxyſms more or leſs diſtinctly marked, with longer or ſhorter intervals.* Thoſe, however, who take the trouble to compare minutely the ſymptoms of an Ague, and of a malignant Fever from contagion, will find that the primary appearances, the courſe, and criſis, of the two diſeaſes are as different as their exciting cauſes; and that no more analogy ſubſiſts between them than between the Small-pox, Eryſipelas, Rheumatiſm, and internal Inflammation. I have, from cloſe attention, been ſo much impreſſed with the difference, as to think that Intermittents ſhould be wholly disjoined from every diſorder propagated by infection, and arranged in a ſeparate claſs. With reſpect to the claſſes under which the diſeaſes are put down in the following pages, it may be obſerved, that,

1ſt, ACUTE DISEASES are attended with diſturbance of the bodily functions,

* "From all this, a preſumption ariſes that "every Fever conſiſts of repeated paroxyſms, and "differs from others only in the circumſtances, "and repetition of the paroxyſms; and, there- "fore, that it was allowable in us to take the "paroxyſm of a pure Intermittent as an example "and model of the whole." Dr. Cullen's Firſt Lines, cap. i. §. 31.

ſo violent and general, that, unleſs they terminate favourably, or change their form, they muſt prove fatal within a ſhort compaſs of time. The ſymptoms characterizing an acute diſeaſe at its commencement, and which have little remiſſion during its courſe, are, ſudden and conſiderable loſs of ſtrength, pain in the loins, aching of the limbs, total incapacity of attention or exertion of mind, heat of the ſkin, thirſt, a frequent pulſe, and furred tongue. Theſe general ſymptoms, differently proportioned and variouſly modified, according to the ſtrength, depreſſion, or irregularity, of the pulſe, the ſtate of mind, and appearances of the tongue, form the ſubdiviſions, and generic diſtinctions of febrile complaints.

2. CHRONIC DISEASES are of long duration, and moſtly conſiſt of uneaſineſs in ſome part or organ, and of impediments to the performance of its functions. They are uſually attended with general debility, but not with violent diſorder of the conſtitution.

3. PERIODICAL DISEASES are characterized by a return, at ſtated intervals, of pain and general diſorder, or fits of ſhivering, followed by heat of the ſkin, and perſpiration, the whole being compriſed in leſs than twenty-four hours. During the intervals,

intervals, however, the patient is not in a ſtate of health, but has a ſallow complexion, and is affected with languor, debility, loſs of appetite, &c.

Moſt of the plans of noſology are exceptionable, as being formed on hypothetical principles, rather than a ſtrict analogy between the diſeaſes put in the ſame order.* It is not my preſent view to multiply objections, nor to enlarge on this ſubject; I ſhall only obſerve that the diſeaſe, to which the denomination of Synochus is hereafter applied, has ſome affinity with the Synochus of the antients. This term is not employed by Dr. Cullen in its original ſenſe, but to expreſs the combination† of an inflammatory with a contagious Fever. The practitioners of North Britain haſtily exclude from noſology, and ſeem to deny, the exiſtence of a complaint‡ (See page 25) with

* Thus Dr. Cullen has arranged as genera, under the order SPASMI, Diarrhœa, Diabetes, Tetanus, Epilepſy, Chorea, Palpitatio, Hooping Cough, Colic, and Hydrophobia.

† This often occurs incidentally; (See below, page 258;) but does not conſtitute an eſſential diſeaſe.

‡ See Cullen's Firſt Lines, §. 72.

which

which their ſtation does not lead them to be acquainted.

Eryſipelas is uſually ranked among the Exanthemata, though having little affinity with the other diſeaſes arranged under the ſame order. The form of it entitled Eryſipelas phlegmonodes (See page 37) does not ſeem communicable by contagion: however, when the fluid contained in its veſicles is inoculated into the arm, it excites a diffuſe inflammation and ſwelling, with a ſlight degree of fever. The œdematic, or gangrenous forms of Eryſipelas may be combined with malignant Fever, and thus communicated from one perſon to another. Inſtances of this have occurred frequently in Hoſpitals, the complicated diſeaſe ſpreading through a whole ward.* It is ſingular that the Fever likewiſe unites itſelf with other complaints, and is propagated by infection under a double form. I may mention, as an inſtance, the combination of an ulcerated Sore-throat with malignant Fever. To this combination alone, which often occurs, and is very

* See Dr. Wells's Obſervations on Eryſipelas, in the Tranſactions Medical and Chirurgical, vol. ii. page 213.

contagious,

contagious, the title of Angina maligna would have been moſt properly applied. Medical writers, by not diſtinguiſhing it from the Scarlatina anginoſa, have been led into obſcurity, and made a foundation for ſome needleſs controverſies. I may here alſo refer to the obſervations made, page 321, on the complication of puerperal and malignant Fever, which has ſome analogy with the caſes above ſtated.

The term Hectica is uſed below in the ſignification given to it by the Greek phyſicians;* among whom it was not conſidered merely as a ſecondary complaint, depending on internal ſuppuration, or any local defect, but as ariſing from a failure of ſtrength in old age, from an exhauſted ſtate of conſtitution, occaſioned by fatigue, long faſting, anxiety, or loſs of ſleep; and ſometimes as a ſequel of Cauſos or other Fevers. They remark farther, that the Hectica often appears at firſt like an Ephemera, that it is always aggravated after food, that its duration is indefinite,

* Galen. Meth. Med. 10. — De Maraſmo, & De Diff. Pulſ. cap. 10. — Alexander Trallian, lib. xii. cap. 4. — Paulus Ægin. De Re Medica, lib. ii. cap. 32. Actuarius particularly diſtinguiſhes the ſecondary ſpecies of Hectic, connected with internal inflammation, ſuppuration, and ſcirrhus. Med. lib. ii. cap. 1.

and

and that it often terminates in a maraſmus. All the ſpecies of Hectic are characterized by the recurrence every twenty-four hours, or ſometimes every twelve hours, of heat of the ſkin, after ſlight chilline ſs, with a circumſcribed fluſh of the cheeks, an increaſed velocity of the pulſe, and violent perſpirations towards morning. In infancy, childhood, youth, and old age, (See page 19,) Hectic takes place, without any local affection, from changes in the conſtitution, connected with the different ſtages of human life. A ſimilar ſtate of diſorder is often produced in perſons of the middle age, when the conſtitutional vigour firſt appears to decline, not reſiſting as uſual the operation of cold, fatigue, and other occaſional cauſes. This ſtate is moſtly accompanied with aphthous ulcerations of the tongue and fauces, and a large ſecretion of frothy phlegm. Under this head alſo muſt be ranked the Febris aphthoſa, or Hectica aphthoſa, often put down in the ſucceeding liſts. It commences with violent and repeated ſhiverings, ſucceeded by fluſhes of heat; with pains of the head, neck, and limbs; roughneſs of the throat; a dark redneſs and enlargement of the papillæ of the tongue; likewiſe an enlargement of the

veins

veins of the uvula, tonſils, &c. The formation of aphthæ is immediately followed by a dryneſs of the tongue, clamminess of the mouth, nauſea, hiccough, heat in the ſtomach, which is increaſed by medicines, wine, or food taken warm. A Diarrhœa ſupervenes, in which the ſtools are of a dark-brown colour, and often ſtreaked with blood. The urine is at firſt clear, but has afterwards a curdly pink ſediment, as in other hectic caſes. There is uſually pain and deafneſs in one ear, with great pain and tenderneſs in the ſoles of the feet. A circumſcribed redneſs appears on the cheeks towards evening, attended with a quick pulſe, heat of the ſkin, ſlight delirium, and reſtleſſneſs. During the day the patient is languid, and heavy, ſometimes thirſty, with but little appetite. After the tongue, fauces, &c. have been healed, the Aphthous ulcerations return again, with internal heat, general uneaſineſs, and the ſame train of ſymptoms as at firſt. By frequent relapſes of this kind, the patient is often reduced to an extreme degree of debility, and emaciation; and the whole duration of the complaint is from five to twelve weeks. The caſes of Hectic, put down in the laſt report for the year 1800, were moſtly of the kind here deſcribed. An

account

account of this complaint was, by miſtake, omitted in its proper place.

In the liſts of diſeaſes prefixed to the Reports, two-thirds of the caſes occurred among the lower claſſes of people, moſtly patients of the Public Diſpenſary, near Temple-Bar: the remaining third was the reſult of private practice in the upper ranks of ſociety. The increaſed number of caſes put down for the laſt two years muſt be in a great meaſure referred to the flouriſhing ſtate of the Diſpenſary, by means of which the medical attendants became more fully acquainted with the diſeaſes of the diſtrict; a diſtrict extending, from Smithfield and St. Paul's, to St. Martin's Lane and Tottenham-Court-Road.

A comparative view of the Bills of Mortality, at different periods, and a diary of the weather, are given at the end of the book, as neceſſary appendages to a work of this kind. The meteorological journal, taken from the Philoſophical Tranſactions, was kept at the apartments of the Royal Society. It is to be noticed, that the quickſilver in the baſon of the barometer is 81 feet above the level of low water ſpring-tides at Somerſet-Houſe.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT

OF

Diſeaſes in London.

STATE of DISEASES in LONDON

On the 20th of March, 1796.

DURING the winter of 1795-6, the wind being moſtly in the weſt and ſouth-weſt quarters, no froſt took place till the latter end of February. But, notwithſtanding the mild, warm, and often damp weather, ſo favourable, in general, to the production of putrid diſeaſes, the number of infectious fevers, throughout London, was remarkably ſmall. Intermittents, particularly Quartans and Quotidians,

were, however, more frequent than uſual, and very obſtinate. The paroxyſms, after having ceaſed for two or three weeks, recurred, in many inſtances, from expoſure to cold: and a perfect cure was not accompliſhed till the middle of March.

The Scarlet Fever, with an ulcerated Sore-throat, had prevailed every autumn from the year 1785 to 1794, and proved extremely fatal. This complaint began to decline in 1795; and is at preſent only ſporadic. Since Chriſtmas laſt, the Meaſles and Small-pox have been extenſively diffuſed; the former diſeaſe being, for the moſt part, mild in its ſymptoms, and favourable in its terminations; the latter often confluent and fatal, eſpecially to children.

There was alſo among infants and children, during the month of January, an epidemic Catarrh, attended with a watery diſcharge from the eyes and noſtrils, a frequent though ſlight cough, a ſhortneſs of breath, or rather, panting, a flushing of the cheeks, great languor, with diſpoſition to ſleep, and a quick, ſmall, irregular pulſe. Theſe ſymptoms were alleviated by the uſe of emetics, bliſters, and antimonials in ſmall doſes: and the complaint terminated in about eight days. It was ſucceeded,

crowded in February, by the Hooping Cough, which commenced with a febrile ſtage, and proceeded with ſuch ſevere paroxyſms of the cough, that many delicate children ſunk under them, being wholly exhauſted by the violent and repeated exertions. In ſome caſes, this diſorder was inſtantly ſuperſeded by the appearance of the Small-pox, after the decline of which, the cough returned with the ſame violence as at firſt. Theſe patients who ſeemed nearly ſpent by the frequent repetition of the paroxyſms, the eyes becoming dull and gloſſy, the cheeks livid and bloated, the breathing laborious, the pulſe weak and fluttering, were, nevertheleſs, recovered by the application of leeches to the cheſt, bliſters, pediluvia, and very ſmall doſes of Dover's powder given every four hours.

Adults were, about the ſame time, affected with inflammatory Sore-throats, Coughs, and Catarrhal Fevers. In ſeveral patients, moſt of them females, a hard, ſounding cough was, after ſome days, followed by an expectoration of thick, fetid, greeniſh matter, intermixed with a large quantity of clear, viſcid mucus. Along with this, other ſymptoms appeared, which ſeemed to indicate the approach of Phthiſis pulmonalis, as diarrhœa, hectic fever,

night ſweats, and emaciation. The complaint was much aggravated during the froſt, which began in the laſt week of February, and terminated on the 11th of March. It was not at all alleviated by blood-letting employed at an early period of the cough. The moſt effectual remedies appeared to be, cupping between the ſhoulders, bliſters applied to the ſternum and ſcrobiculus cordis, pediluvium, antimonials occaſionally, nitre, and demulcent drinks. Under this treatment, added to a light cooling diet, all the above patients were reſtored to health before the 20th of March. The diſorder had not therefore, in any caſe, produced ulcerations in the lungs: and the expectorated fluid, ſo alarming in its appearance, was perhaps only compoſed of a puriform ſecretion, and an increaſed diſcharge of mucus, circumſtances uſual in other membranous inflammations. It is worthy of remark, that, by ſuch a ſtate of the inner ſurface of the lungs, the conſtitution is affected nearly in the ſame manner as when they are ulcerated; on which account, the diagnoſis of pulmonary Conſumption muſt often be rendered obſcure and difficult.

The treatment, employed in the above caſes, proved likewiſe ſucceſsful in two caſes of Peri-

Peripneumony, where bleeding from the arm had been diſadvantageous.

Between the 1ſt of January and the 20th of March, many caſes occurred of the complaint, deſcribed by Dr. Huxham under the title of "Slow nervous Fever."* This diſeaſe does not ariſe from contagion; nor ſeems to become infectious in its courſe. The exciting cauſes of it are fatigue, watching, anxiety, and poor diet. Its progreſs is ſlow and inſidious; ſo that the firſt acceſſion can ſeldom be marked: neither has it any certain termination or criſis, but aſſumes, at its concluſion, a hectical form, which continues ſome weeks before the patient's ſtrength and health can be fully reinſtated. In theſe reſpects, it differs from fevers produced by contagion; and alſo in another particular, that the tongue uſually remains moiſt, through its whole courſe. Aphthous ulcerations in the fauces are common to both diſeaſes.

One caſe of this fever terminated about the 20th day by a profuſe hæmorrhagy from the bowels, which proved fatal within twelve

* Eſſay on Fevers, chap. vii. See Langriſh on Fevers, chap. 10, 11, 12.

hours. The patient was an unmarried and disappointed lady, 35 years of age.

The other acute complaints, that remain to be noticed, took place chiefly during the frost in February and March; and consisted of a few cases of Rheumatism, Sore-throats of the species termed by medical writers erysipelatous, phlegmonic Erysipelas of the face, Iliac Needle-path, Inflammation of the bowels, and peritoneal inflammation.

Respecting chronic diseases, some observations will be made in future Numbers; the only cases, connected with the present season of the year, are eruptions on the skin.* These have principally been the Itch; the Prurigo, or an universal itching of the skin without pustules; the papulous eruptions termed by the ancients, Lichen; the Dry or Scaly Tetter; the Impetigo, or Humid Tetter; and Herpes labialis. The last is an eruption of inflamed, watery pustules about the mouth, which is sometimes produced by cold, and seems idiopathic; but it often oc-

* But few remarks will be made on this subject, as I am at present engaged in a separate treatise on Cutaneous Diseases, two orders of which, elucidated with coloured engravings, are already published.

curs

cure as a secondary complaint, affording a sudden crisis of pneumonic inflammation, and other internal disorders.

I subjoin the number of deaths stated in the London Bills of Mortality, between the 22d of December, 1795, and the 22d of March, 1796.

Abscess	5	Jaw locked	1
Abortive	26	Inflammation	73
Aged	204	Lethargy	3
Ague	2	Lunatic	2
Apoplexy	29	Measles	173
Asthma	69	Mortification	40
Bleeding	6	Palsy	14
Bed-ridden	1	Pleurisy	14
Brain Fever	2	Rupture	5
Chicken-pox	1	Rheumatism	2
Child-bed	35	Scurvy	2
Cold	1	Small-pox	374
Colic	2	Sores	11
Consumption	1034	Sore-throat	5
Convulsions	871	Spitting of blood	1
Croup	3	Still-born	165
Dropsy	173	Stone	4
Dropsy in the brain	2	Stoppage of the Stomach	2
Fever	38	Strangury	1
French Pox	11	Suddenly	29
Gout	22	Teeth	100
Gravel	5	Thrush	15
Grief	1	Water in the head	13
Hooping Cough	95	Worms	3
Jaundice	15		

It appears, that, of 4115 perſons, 1436 died under two years of age; 275 between ſeventy and ninety; and 13 between ninety and one hundred.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of March to the 20th of April.

INSTEAD of mentioning in a curſory manner the ſeries of diſeaſes which prevailed during the laſt month, I think it will be both correct and uſeful to preſent a tabular view of all the caſes immediately under my own notice: by that means, the proportion of acute to chronic complaints, and of the former to each other, will at once appear. Such a liſt, being made on a tolerably extenſive ſcale, may ſerve as a ſpecimen of general practice. In order to have a more complete and accurate account of the prevailing diſeaſes, it would be neceſſary that the practitioners, who ſuperintend the numerous medical inſtitutions in this metropolis, ſhould publiſh monthly or quarterly the reſult of their experience, which would be particularly valuable, ſince their obſervations muſt be made

made among the claſs of people moſt expoſed to the viciſſitudes of the ſeaſons, and to other cauſes of diſeaſe.

In the ſubſequent table, the diſorders of infants under two years of age are put down ſeparately.

ACUTE DISEASES.

Catarrh	16
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Hæmoptoë, or Spitting of blood,	4
Ophthalmia	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	6
Gout	1
Contagious, malignant Fever	11
Slow Fever	4
Small-pox	5
Meaſles	3

CHRONIC DISEASES.

*Aſthenia	15
Hyſteria	1
Chorea (St. Vitus's Dance)	1
Epilepſy	2

* Sauvages's Noſology, cl. vi. ord. 4. g. 21.

Hydrocephalus	1
Cough, and Chronic Dyſpnœa	43
Pulmonary Conſumption	11
Dyſpepſia or Indigeſtion	11
Jaundice	1
*Gaſtrodynia bilioſa	2
†Enterodynia	10
Obſtipatio	2
Diarrhœa	16
Tape Worm	11
Abortion	1
Anaſarca	5
Encyſted Dropſy	11
Chloroſis	16
Fluor albus	5
Gravel and Dyſury	4
Chronic Rheumatiſm	12
Sciatica	3
Rheumatic Tooth-ache	4
Paralyſis	2
Scrophula	6
Lichen	2
Itch and Prurigo	8
Purpura, or Landſcurvy	3
Dry or Scaly Tetter	5

* Sauvages's Noſology, cl. vii. ord. 4. g. 20.

† Ditto . . . . cl. vii. ord. 4. g. 21.

Impetigo

Impetigo or Humid Tetter	2
Shingles	1

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	4
Quotidian	1
Hectica senilis	2
Hectica adolescentium	3
Hemicranium, or periodical Head-ache	1

DISEASES OF INFANTS.

Hooping Cough	5
Catarrhal Fever	8
Measles	6
Small-pox	4
Thrush	2
Crusta lactea	1
Scald-head	4
Papulous eruptions	6
Tabes mesenterica	3
Prolapsus ani	1
Worms	4
Convulsions	3

The aphthous Sore-throat, mentioned in the above list of acute diseases, was attended with an elongation of the uvula and velum

pendulum palati, with a quick, weak pulſe, great languor and debility, and numerous ſmall ulcerations on the tongue, fauces, and inſide of the cheeks. This complaint has occurred frequently ſince the abatement of the Scarlatina anginoſa: it appears to be infectious, but has not in any inſtance proved dangerous.

Two of the caſes of Hæmoptoë, in which blood-letting, cupping, bliſters, &c. were timely employed, terminated without producing any confirmed ulcerations of the lungs; although they were, for more than a fortnight, attended with a hard cough, thick, fetid expectoration, hectic fever, and diarrhœa.

Of the contagious Fevers, only one terminated fatally. The patient was a girl, fourteen years of age; ſhe took the fever from her brother, and died at the end of the firſt week, in conſequence of a violent hæmorrhagy from the noſe. A young man of ſeventeen had two or three returns of a ſimilar hæmorrhagy, within the firſt ten days of the fever; but is at preſent recovering. Seven, out of the eleven caſes of this diſeaſe, were in one family. The infection ſeemed to ariſe from an infant who died about the ſixth day of

of the confluent Small-pox, attended with an eruption of purple ſpots, and a hæmorrhagy.* Every individual of the family was taken ill of the fever on the ſeventh night after the death of the child. An antimonial emetic was immediately given to each of them, and a doſe of calomel the next morning. In the children, and ſervants, the fever was brought to a criſis on the fourth day. The father and mother, who had aphthous ulcerations in the fauces, began to recover on the fourteenth day of the diſeaſe.

The Meaſles were, in general, much more ſevere laſt month than in January and February. They were ſucceeded, in children, by obſtinate coughs, and difficulty of breathing, with febrile ſymptoms long continued; by glandular ſwellings, and eruptions of painful inflamed puſtules, ſome of them being nearly as large as boils.

* It was probably incorrect to refer the diſeaſe thus produced to the head of Contagious, malignant Fever. I have ſince repeatedly ſeen a febrile complaint, attended with aphthæ, originate from intercourſe with patients labouring under the purple Small-pox, and from expoſure to other putreſcent effluvia.

The

The caſes of Pulmonary Conſumption were not recent caſes: that diſeaſe is, at ſome ſeaſons, much aggravated, particularly when the wind blows from the eaſt or north-eaſt quarters, as during the laſt month. The cough, fever, and difficulty of breathing, increaſe, and are attended with violent pain or ſtitches in the ſide, with profuſe night-ſweats, and diarrhœa. Theſe ſymptoms being occaſionally palliated by medicines and regimen, perſons in low life ſtruggle with the diſorder amid their occupations, and prolong a miſerable exiſtence for ſeveral years.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of April to the 20th of May.

I SHALL continue to exhibit a monthly liſt of the diſeaſes preſented to my obſervation, under nearly the ſame arrangement as in the report for the laſt month. This plan ſeems likely to afford ſome ſatisfactory information reſpecting the predominant complaints, when added to a general account of them.

ACUTE

ACUTE DISEASES.

Catarrhal Fever	112
Peripneumony	3
Pleuriſy	11
Acute Rheumatiſm	12
Inflammatory Sore-throat	16
Ulcerated Sore-throat	11
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Malignant, contagious Fever	2
Hooping Cough	16
Meaſles	19
Small-pox	15
Eryſipelas of the face	11
Slow Fever	14
Child-bed Fevers	5

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Chronic Dyſpnœa	30
Spitting of blood	8
Pulmonary Conſumption	16
Chronic Rheumatiſm	13
Sciatica	1
Lumbago	3
Dropſy	5
Aſthenia	24
Hyſteria	1
Syncope	1
Cephalæa	6

Paralyſis

Paralyſis	3
Hæmatemeſis, or Vomiting of blood	3
Inteſtinal hæmorrhagy	1
Menorrhagia	2
Abortus	1
Fluor albus	4
Amenorrhœa and Chloroſis	10
Scirrhus uteri	2
Prolapſus uteri	2
Dyſpepſia	19
Gaſtrodynia	6
Enterodynia	10
Diarrhœa	7
Hernia	1
Tape Worm	1
Round Worm (Lumbricus)	2
Aſcarides	4
Scirrhous liver	1
Gravel and Dyſury	4
Axillary Abſceſs	1
Suppuration in the ear	2
Scrophula	5
Tabes meſenterica	6
Convulſions in infants	12
Lichen	3
Itch and Prurigo	16
Lepra Græcorum	1

Dry Tetter	2
Ichthyosis	1
Erythema	2
Purpura	1
Impetigo	3
Vari	2
Noli me tangere	2
Porrigo	4
Papulous Eruptions peculiar to infants	3
Ecthymata, or large inflamed puſtules	2

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	5
Hectica ſenilis	1
Hectica adoleſcentium	2
Hectica infantilis	1

All the caſes of catarrhal and pneumonic Inflammation terminated favourably. The medical treatment of them was by local bleeding, bliſters, antimonials, pediluvium, &c. It is remarkable, how few caſes of this kind, in London, admit of repeated bleeding from the arm.

The caſe of Ulcerated Sore-throat was attended with a weak and quick pulſe, great languor

langnor and debility, and large ulcerations on the tonſils, ſucceeded by thick, white ſloughs. As ſoon as theſe were removed the ulcers preſently healed by a free uſe of the bark.

The Small-pox and Meaſles have prevailed more, during this ſpring, than has been known for many years paſt. They were diffuſed, in the courſe of laſt month, through all the villages adjacent to the metropolis. I cannot here paſs over a ſtriking inſtance of the bad effects ariſing from partial inoculation. A child was inoculated, in April, whoſe parents kept a ſhop in a court, conſiſting of about twenty houſes. As the inhabitants repaired every day for neceſſary articles to the ſource of infection, the conſequence was, that ſeventeen perſons were affected with the Small-pox in the natural way, within a fortnight after the child's recovery; and eight of them died of the diſeaſe.

The Hooping Cough was unuſually violent and obſtinate. One infant died of it before the febrile ſtage had in any degree abated.

In perſons, whoſe lungs did not ſeem to be ulcerated, but who had for a long time been affected with cough and difficulty of breathing, thoſe complaints were much aggravated

gravated by the irregular ſtate of the weather; and terminated, in ſeveral inſtances, by a ſpitting of blood.

The caſes of Rheumatiſm, of Diarrhœa, and other diſorders of the bowels, likewiſe originated, in general, from long expoſure to a cold and humid atmoſphere.

In the liſt of periodical diſeaſes, the complaint termed Hectica adoleſcentium frequently affects young perſons, during the period of their growth, after the age of puberty. It is characterized by febrile paroxyſms occurring every day, pain in the limbs, often with painful ſwellings in the joints,* loſs of ſleep and appetite, and great emaciation. If a cough does not ſupervene, the patients recover in ten or twelve weeks.

A ſpecies of Hectic takes place in infants† and children from conſtitutional circumſtances, without any apparent local affection. It is attended with a very quick pulſe; with heat and flushing during the paroxyſm; and

* See Muſgrave, De arthritide ex Chloroſi, &c. cap. 3.

† Sydenham, op. un. p. 504. The Febris lenta infantum, Hoffman, tom. ii. p. 177, is ſymptomatic of pain, with ſwelling of the abdomen, and a diſeaſed ſtate of the meſenteric glands.

throughout

throughout with an extreme degree of irritability and inquietude; ſometimes with loſs of appetite, ſometimes with a craving for ſtrong food; and an equal irregularity reſpecting the ſtate of the bowels. Theſe ſymptoms continue for a length of time, and occaſion a waſting, with loſs of ſtrength: they uſually precede a conſiderable increaſe of ſtature.

The Hectica ſenilis is deſcribed by Hoffman, tom. ii. p. 177.

Bills of Mortality, from the 22d of March to the 24th of May, 1796.

Abſceſs	3	French Pox	2
Abortive	20	Gout	16
Aged	184	Gravel	6
Ague	3	Grief	1
Apoplexy	11	Hooping Cough	144
Aſthma	64	Jaundice	21
Bleeding	1	Inflammation	56
Bed-ridden	1	Livergrown	2
Cancer	7	Lethargy	1
Child-bed	29	Lunatic	16
Cold	1	Meaſles	36
Colic	1	Mortification	35
Conſumption	743	Palſy	20
Convulſions	673	Pleuriſy	2
Cough	3	Rupture	3
Croup	6	Scurvy	1
Dropſy	121	Small-pox	478
Fever	230	Sores	2

Sore-

Sore-throat	3	Suddenly	16
St. Anthony's Fire	1	Swelling	1
Still-born	124	Teeth	73
Stoppage in the ſtomach	3	Thruſh	4
Strangury	1	Water in the Head	16
		Worms	2

Total of deaths 3187: died under two years of age 1129; 240 between ſeventy and ninety; 7 between ninety and one hundred.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of May to the 20th of June.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	9
Scarlatina anginoſa	7
Small-pox	7
Chicken-pox	1
Malignant, contagious Fever	1
Hooping Cough	5
Catarrh	6
Peritoneal Inflammation	4
Acute Rheumatiſm	4

Slow

Slow Fever	3
Bilious, or Summer Fever	3
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	6

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Chronic Dyſpnœa	22
Spitting of blood	5
Pulmonary Conſumption	12
Chronic Rheumatiſm	6
Dropſy	4
Aſthenia	21
Hyſteria	2
Cephalæa	6
Apoplexy	1
Paralyſis	4
Chlorosis and Amenorrhœa	8
Menorrhagia	5
Fluor albus	3
Scirrhus uteri	1
Prolapſus uteri	2
Prolapſus ani	1
Hæmorrhoids	2
Hernia	3
Gravel	2
Iſchuria	1
Aſcarides	2
Gaſtrodynia	5
Enterodynia	3

Scirrhous

Scirrhous liver	2
Jaundice	2
Bilious vomiting	4
Diarrhœa	5
Lichen	2
Dry Tetter	1
Itch and Prurigo	6
Nettle-rash	1
Noli me tangere	1
Cancer	2

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quotidian	2
Tertian	3
Semitertian	1
Hemicranium	2
Hectica adolescentium	1
Hectica senilis	1

DISEASES OF INFANTS.

Catarrhal Fevers	4
Fevers from teething and indigestion	6
Tabes Mesenterica	2
Rickets	3
Scrophula	4

St.

St. Vitus's Dance	1
Cruſta lactea	1
Dandriff	2
Scald-head	3

The ſeven caſes of Scarlatina anginoſa were in the children of one family, reſiding near the Magdalen Hoſpital. A boy, twelve years of age, took the diſeaſe firſt; all the reſt were infected by him within a fortnight; but they began to ſicken on different days. The father and mother eſcaped the contagion; nor did it extend to any families in the neighbourhood. This diſorder was attended with ſpreading ulcerations on the tonſils, ſomewhat deeper than is uſual. The eldeſt daughter, twenty-two years of age, had nearly ſunk under a violent hæmorrhagy from the noſe, which occurred twice, though ſhe had the catamenia at the ſame time. One or two others were affected with diarrhœa, bilious vomitings, head-ache, and ſlight delirium. The ſcarlet raſh extended over the whole body. There was in all the patients a quick, ſmall, and irregular pulſe, with great languor, faintneſs, and depreſſion. Theſe ſymptoms ſuddenly diſappeared on the eighth or ninth day of the diſeaſe, and were not ſucceeded,

ceeded, as frequently happens, by anaſarcous ſwellings of the lower extremities.

The beſt mode of practice, in the Scarlatina anginoſa, is to adminiſter gentle emetics repeatedly, during its firſt ſtage, according to the plan recommended by Dr. Withering, in a judicious treatiſe on this diſeaſe.* It may be obſerved that, when an emetic wholly fails in its operation, the patient ſeldom recovers.

The Synochus bilioſa, (Sauvages de Febribus,) though a diſeaſe frequently occurring, during the ſummer months, in the vicinity of London, has not been accurately deſcribed by our practical writers, who ſeem, in general, to have confounded it with the malignant or putrid fever. Its ſymptoms are, however, very different; neither is it communicated by contagion. It commences with irregular ſhiverings, which are afterwards ſucceeded by a great and continued heat of the ſkin; fluſhing of the face; frequent nauſea, with a ſenſation of heat in the ſtomach and bowels; a ſenſe of oppreſſion in the cheſt, with tremors, panting, and inquietude; a white parched

* Account of the Scarlet Fever and Sore-throat, as it appeared at Birmingham in 1778.

tongue, and unquenchable thirſt. The pulſe is always very quick; and there is a violent, throbbing pain of the head, which prevents ſleep, and often produces delirium. The temper of mind is much altered by this diſeaſe: under its influence, patients, who in health are of a meek and ſerene diſpoſition, become fretful and turbulent, and are moved to paſſion on the ſlighteſt occaſions. The ſtate of the bowels is very uncertain; but, after coſtiveneſs for ſeveral days, a diarrhœa uſually takes place on a ſudden, attended with pain, gripings, and bilious diſcharges. The urine is alſo very variable in its appearances; being ſometimes clear, and of a high orange colour; ſometimes greeniſh, and a little turbid, like punch: at other times, it is made white; and, after ſtanding ſome hours, depoſits a white, flaky ſediment. On the ſeventh or eighth day, jaundice frequently takes place, giving a yellow tinge to the whole ſurface of the body, without any confirmed obſtruction of the biliary ducts. This appearance is not unfavourable.

The duration of the Synochus is from eighteen to twenty-eight days. In ſome caſes, after the ſecond week, it begins to remit; and has an exacerbation or paroxyſm every day, which terminates

terminates by gentle ſweating. It is often thus protracted, in a hectical form, to the thirty-ſixth, fortieth, or forty-ſecond day. The occaſional or exciting cauſes of it are fatigue in hot weather, anxiety, watching; and drinking cold water, after the body has been much heated by labour or travelling. This is the only acute diſeaſe in the ſouthern part of Britain, which has any relation to the Continued or Remitting Fevers of hot climates. Such is the mildneſs of its ſymptoms, that we ſhould vainly attempt to arrange it with any analogous ſpecies of fever deſcribed by Hippocrates, Galen, or the Arabian phyſicians. When the febrile diſeaſes, produced here by the heat of ſummer, are farther compared with thoſe which occur in the Eaſt* and Weſt† Indies, or nearer to

* "Febres continuæ plerumque cum tanto furore *hic* mortales invadunt, ut tanquam attonitos de ratione mentis ſtatim dejiciant, et ſæpe intra pauciſſimos dies, imo aliquandò horas, cum phrenitide, ac continuo delirio ægros e vitâ rapiant. Adſunt perpetuæ vigiliæ, vomitus varii coloris, præcipuè viridis ac æruginoſæ bilis. Externa rigent. Calor internè cum ingenti ſiti vitales ac naturales facultates depaſcitur." Bontius, De Febribus in Indiis, cap. 14.

† "The fever invades the patient in a moſt precipitate manner. The only notice it gives of its aſſaults is a momentary

the equinoctial line,* we ſhall be fully ſenſible of the advantages of our own clime.

" mentary chilneſs and ſhivering, which is ſoon ſucceeded by " a burning heat, which diſperſes itſelf univerſally over the " body, but is felt more intenſely about the præcordia. This " heat is attended with a high, ſtrong, and rapid pulſe, hea- " vineſs in the eyes, and throbbing pain in the head, and " violent beating of the temporal arteries, a thick and labo- " rious reſpiration, naufeouſneſs and reaching to vomit, and, " when any thing is thrown up, it is of the bilious kind: " to theſe we may add great anxiety, pain in the back and " loins, and an uneaſy laſſitude in all the limbs. The ſymp- " toms ſubſequent to theſe (which often diſcover themſelves " in the ſpace of twelve hours from the invaſion) are a dry, " harſh, rough, and diſcoloured tongue, inſatiable thirſt, fore- " neſs all over the body, great reſtleſſneſs, and deliria. In " the laſt ſtage, the patient labours under a deep coma; " oppreſſion of the præcordia; heaving of the lungs; an in- " terrupted reſpiration; tremblings of the tendons; convul- " ſions; and cold, clammy ſweats. Theſe are the three ad- " vances to be taken notice of in this fever, which uſually " terminates in a favourable criſis, or the death of the pa- " tient, about the fourth day after the attack." Towne, on the Diſeaſes in Barbadoes, p. 22.

* For an accurate account of the Fever at Free-Town, in the latitude of 8°, ſee "Dr. Winterbottom's Medical Di- " rections for the Uſe of the Veſſels in the Service of the " Hon. Sierra-Leone Company;" a work which, if pro- perly circulated, would be of the greateſt utility to navi- gators or ſettlers on the coaſt of Africa, and which merits the attention of medical practitioners intending to fix their reſidence in a tropical country.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of June to the 20th of July.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	7
Scarlatina	6
Small-pox	9
Swine-pox	3
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Ulcerated Sore-throat	1
Peripneumony	1
Catarrh	5
Acute Rheumatism	3
Gout	1
Summer Fever	4
Ephemera	5
Child-bed Fever	4

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Chronic Rheumatism	4
Asthenia	15
Paralysis	3
Apoplexy	1
Epistaxis	1
Cephalæa	3

Epilepſy	1
Hyſteria	4
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	7
Menorrhagia	5
Fluor albus	5
Prolapſus uteri	1
Abortion	2
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Dyſpepſia	14
Gaſtrodynia	15
Enterodynia	9
Bilious vomiting	3
Inteſtinal hæmorrhagy	4
Hæmorrhoids	3
Devonſhire colic	1
Scirrhous liver	2
Jaundice	1
Cough and Chronic Dyſpnœa	13
Pulmonary Conſumption	9
Spitting of blood	3
Anaſarca	5
Land Scurvy	1
Dry Tetter	2
Impetigo	2
Lichen	1
Nettle-raſh	2
Itch	9
Prurigo	5

Inflamed

Inflamed Puſtules	8
Shingles	2
Noli me tangere	2

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	1
Quotidian	1
Hectica	3

INFANTILE DISEASES.

Hooping Cough	8
Catarrhal Fever	5
Dentition	3
Diarrhœa	3
Tabes meſenterica	6
Worms	7
Scrophula	6
Rickets	3
Hydrocephalus	1
Cruſta lactea and Scald-head	5
Papulous eruptions	6

The Small-pox, during the whole of the laſt ſpring, was the leading epidemical complaint in London, and its vicinity. The diſeaſe continues to rage with unabated violence; and, ſince the hot weather commenced, has appeared in its moſt malignant form, proving generally fatal.

The Meaſles ſeem to be, at preſent, declining; but are likely to be ſucceeded by the Scarlet Fever, which has been already diffuſed to a conſiderable extent. This diſeaſe, as is uſual in the ſummer months, exhibits a mild train of ſymptoms, and ſoon terminates favourably, without producing any material affection of the throat. For ſome years paſt, it has always been moſt virulent and dangerous in the months of October and November; but generally ceaſed on the firſt appearance of froſt.

The Hooping Cough is yet very prevalent. It has been attended with a conſiderable degree of fever, which continued two weeks or upwards; and, in this ſtage, has been occaſionally fatal to weakly, delicate children.

The Ephemera is deſcribed at large by Sauvages, Noſol. Method. cl. ii. ord. 1. It has been noticed by moſt of the antient medical writers,* according to whom, "The mildeſt "of all fevers is the Ephemera, which ariſes "from ſlight occaſional cauſes; from cold "or heat, from pain or anger, from fatigue, "indigeſtion, or anxiety. It is called ephe-

* Galen de diff. Febr. lib. ii. cap. 1; and Actuar. Meth. Med. lib. ii. cap. 1; and Alex. Trall. lib. xii. cap. 1.

"meral,

" meral, becauſe it laſts but for a day.
" Sometimes, however, it extends to the
" fourth day."

The moſt predominant among chronic complaints, as will appear from the liſt, are diſorders of the ſtomach and bowels, accompanied with violent pain, bilious vomiting or diarrhœa, hæmorrhagy, &c. Theſe ſymptoms may be ſomewhat aggravated by the ſudden alterations of heat and cold, which have taken place during the preſent month: but, I am ſorry to add, they muſt principally be referred to the intemperate uſe of ſpirituous liquors; a cauſe of diſeaſe more pernicious to the labouring claſs of people in this city, than the combined influences of its air, climate, occupations, unſeaſonable amuſements, contagious and other prejudicial effluvia.

Bills of Mortality, from the 24th of May to the 26th of July.

Abſceſs	5	Convulſions	533
Abortive	16	Croup	2
Aged	113	Dropſy	124
Apoplexy	17	Evil	1
Aſthma	41	Fever	243
Bleeding	2	French Pox	3
Cancer	14	Gout	17
Childbed	36	Gravel	1
Conſumption	631	Grief	3

Gripes	2	Rheumatism	1
Head-ache	1	Small-pox	797
Hooping-cough	82	Sore-throat	5
Jaundice	8	Still-born	84
Inflammation	45	Stoppage in the ſto-mach	2
Lunatic	12	Suddenly	14
Meaſles	44	Teeth	58
Mortification	37	Thruſh	5
Palſy	22	Water in the head	6
Pleuriſy	1	Worms	3
Rupture	3		

Of the above number, 1021 died under two years of age, and 57 between eighty and a hundred.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of July to the 20th of Auguſt.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

SMALL-POX	16
Meaſles	5
Scarlatina	6
Hooping Cough	14
Summer Fever	8

Child-

Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5
Erythematous Sore-throat	4
Ulcerated Sore-throat	1
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Tracheal Sore-throat	1
Catarrh	9
Peripneumony	3
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Erysipelas of the face	1
Acute Rheumatism	5
Fevers in Infants	8

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Asthenia	22
Hysteria	4
Syncope	3
Chlorosis	16
Scrophula and Rickets	7
Dropsy	6
Chronic Rheumatism	8
Sciatica	3
Pain of the side	3
Apoplexy	3
Paralysis	6
Hydrocephalus	1
Cephalæa	5
Cough and Consumption	15
Gastrodynia	14

Dyſpepſia	9
Enterodynia	10
Diarrhœa	5
Colica Pictonum	1
Hæmorrhoids	2
Contraction of the Œſophagus,	1
Scirrhous liver	2
Jaundice	1
Tabes meſenterica and Worms,	6
Dentition	4
Menorrhagia	3
Fluor albus	7
Scirrhous uterus	2
Gravel and Dyſury	4
Lumbar Abſceſs	2
Abſceſs of the cheek	1
Herpes	1
Impetigo	3
Itch and Prurigo	6
Scaly Tetter	2
Nettle-raſh	3
Inflamed Puſtules	2
Porrigo	6
Sycoſis	1
Noli me tangere	2
Morbus pedicularis	1

PERIODICAL

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quotidian	1
Tertian	1

The Scarlet Fever retains the ſame mild form as during the laſt month. It does not ſpread much within the city, but extends to the adjoining villages; more eſpecially on the ſouthward of London, to Newington, Kennington, Stockwell, Mitcham, Streatham, &c. &c.

The varieties of the Sore-throat, mentioned in the liſt of acute diſeaſes, have, as I underſtand from other practitioners, been very prevalent during the two laſt months. They were, however, in general, more troubleſome and lingering than dangerous.

All the caſes of Peripneumony, though attended with a ſpitting of blood, had a favourable termination. They occurred, during the irregular temperature of the air, at the latter end of July. Since the commencement of warm, ſettled weather, I have not obſerved any inflammatory complaint.

The caſe of Eryſipelas was ſlight. This diſeaſe was divided by the antients into Eryſipelas phlegmonodes, and Eryſipelas œdematodes.

For

For the former, they properly direct blood-letting, purgatives, and a cooling diet. The latter, with leſs redneſs, exhibits more tumefaction. It is attended with a quick but weak pulſe, with delirium or coma, and has a tendency to gangrene, which cannot always be prevented by the uſe of Peruvian bark, mineral acids, and a cordial regimen. The œdematic, or gangrenous form of the Eryſipelas is the moſt ufual in London. However, the phlegmonic ſpecies, with a fizy ſtate of the blood, may be occaſionally ſeen during the ſpring ſeaſon.

The Small-pox and Hooping Cough are yet very generally diffuſed, and ſeem much aggravated in conſequence of the heat of the ſeaſon. Theſe two complaints have been intimately connected for ſeveral months paſt. In many inſtances, the paroxyſms of the cough continued, without abatement, through the whole courſe of the ſupervening Small-pox. The Hooping Cough, in other caſes, firſt commenced during the eruption of the Small-pox, and remained a long time after it, without any material alteration. Theſe obſervations tend to ſet aſide an eſtabliſhed opinion among phyſiologiſts, that two ſpecific diſeaſes, at leaſt two ſpecific contagions, cannot actuate

tuate the human conſtitution at the ſame time. That the operation of one contagion is, occaſionally, ſuſpended, while the body is under the influence of another, may be granted; but I am convinced, from a variety of caſes, that this is not an univerſal law.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Auguſt to the 20th of September.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

SMALL-POX	11
Meaſles	3
Scarlatina anginoſa	13
Eryſipelas	2
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Ulcerated Sore-throat	2
Hooping Cough	5
Dyſentery	4
Cholera	5
Summer Fever	7
Puerperal Fever	2
Malignant or Putrid Fever	6

Acute

Acute Rheumatiſm	2
Gout	1
Catarrh	3
Peripneumony	2
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	7

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	18
Syncope	2
Hyſteria	1
Epilepſy	1
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Paralyſis	5
Anaſarca	4
Chronic Rheumatiſm	7
Lumbago	1
Sciatica	1
Cephalæa	3
Cough and Conſumption	23
Dyſpepſia	8
Gaſtrodynia	10
Enterodynia	8
Diarrhœa	14
Jaundice	2
Worms	3
Menorrhagia	4
Leucorrhœa	4

Abortion

Abortion	2
Chlorosis and Amenorrhœa	7
Scirrhus uteri	1
Mammary Abscess	2
Ulcer of the Kidney	1
Stone and Gravel	5
Prolapsus uteri	1
Scrophula and Rickets	8
Tabes mesenterica	3
Lepra Græcorum	1
Tooth-rash	2
Scald-head	2
Crusta lactea	1
Impetigo	1
Sycosis*	8
Itch and Prurigo	5

The Scarlet Fever, which is now extensively diffused, has, since the beginning of September, assumed its more malignant and dangerous form; being attended with deep ulcerations of the throat, with a collection of tough phlegm in the fauces, and an acrimonious discharge from the nostrils, a weak and quick pulse, with interchanges of torpor, and violent agitation. In this form, the

* See Celsus de Medicin. lib. vi. cap. 3.

disease

diſeaſe uſually proves fatal to infants on the ſeventh or eighth day.

But few caſes of the Meaſles occur at preſent; and the Small-pox ſeems conſiderably declining. The fatality of the latter diſorder has been, during the laſt half year, uncommonly great. It appears, from the London bills of mortality, that 1050 perſons died of the Small-pox in 1795; whereas, between the 1ſt of January and 25th of Auguſt, in the preſent year, the number of deaths has amounted to 2196. During the ſummer months, the deaths are ſtated in the bills as follows: in May, 331; in June, 340; in July, 412; in Auguſt, 360.

Caſes of Cholera have been few and ſlight during the preſent ſeaſon; owing, perhaps, to the uniformly warm weather which prevailed at the latter end of Auguſt and the beginning of September. The Dyſentery has alſo been very ſlight: this diſeaſe has not been epidemical in London ſince the autumn of the year 1780.

The Synochus, or Summer Fever, which was formerly deſcribed, begins to change its form during the month of September; and aſſumes, in the ſecond week of its courſe, the characteriſtics of the malignant or putrid

trid fever; often proving fatal about the eighteenth or nineteenth day, if timely care be not taken to check its progreſs.

In September, alſo, Fevers uſually appear, which, from their commencement, exhibit ſymptoms of malignancy; being attended with a brown dry tongue, violent pain of the head, delirium, or coma, deep-ſeated pains of the limbs, petechial ſpots, and hæmorrhagy. Theſe fevers become highly contagious, eſpecially when they occur in cloſe confined ſituations, and in houſes where little attention is paid to ventilation or cleanlineſs. The diſeaſe is extended by infection during the months of October and November, but its progreſs is generally ſtopped by the froſts of December.

Bills of Mortality, from the 26th of July to the 23th of September.

Abſceſs	2	Convulſions	587
Abortive	17	Croup	3
Aged	114	Dropſy	110
Apoplexy	19	Evil	2
Aſthma	32	Fever	247
Bleeding	4	French Pox	5
Bedridden	2	Gout	19
Cancer	10	Gravel	3
Childbed	40	Gripes	6
Conſumption	595	Head-ache	2

Hooping

Hooping Cough	79	St. Anthony's Fire	3
Jaundice	13	Still-born	117
Inflammation	71	Stoppage in the ſtomach	1
Lunatic	13	Suddenly	19
Meaſles	50	Swelling	1
Mortification	34	Teeth	41
Palſy	4	Thruſh	12
Pleuriſy	1	Ulcers	1
Piles	1	Worms	1
Scarlet Fever	1	Water in the head	8
Small-pox	833		
Sore-throat	4		

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of September to the 20th of October.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

SCARLATINA anginoſa	11
Meaſles	2
Small-pox	7
Hooping Cough	4
Malignant Fever	4
Acute Rheumatiſm	11
Catarrh	16
Sore-throat	4
Aphthous Sore-throat	3

Inflammation

Inflammation of the bowels	1
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Low Fever	1
Puerperal Fever	2
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	18

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	14
Hyſteria	6
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Anaſarca	6
Chronic Rheumatiſm	9
Lumbago	2
Paralyſis	3
Apoplexy	2
Hydrocephalus	1
Cephalæa	4
Melancholia	1
Dyſpepſia	9
Chloroſis	3
Gaſtrodynia	11
Bilious vomiting	3
Enterodynia	7
Diarrhœa	10
Cough and Dyſpnœa	39
Pulmonary Conſumption	8
Pleuritic Stitches	3
Spitting of blood	3

Hæmorrhagy

Hæmorrhagy from the noſe	2
Hæmorrhagy from the kidneys	2
Vomiting of blood	1
Menorrhagia	3
Fluor albus	5
Prolapſus uteri	1
Prolapſus ani	1
Hernia	2
Scirrhous liver	1
Jaundice	2
Gravel	2
Tabes meſenterica	6
Ulcer of the rectum	1
Dyſphagia	1
Lichen	1
Scaly Tetter	2
Ichthyoſis	1
Nettle-raſh	1
Impetigo	1
Inflamed puſtules	5
Scald-head and Cruſta lactea	6
Phthiriaſis	1
Itch	7
Thruſh	3
Erythema	1
Furunculi	2
Anthrax	1
Lupus	1

PERIODICAL

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quartan	1
Tertian	1
Hectica ſenilis	2
Hectica adoleſcentium	1

The Scarlet Fever, with a ſore-throat, ſtill continues to be the leading epidemic. This diſeaſe, however, has not generally been ſo violent as in ſome preceding years. Only one caſe, out of the eleven which occurred during the laſt month in my own practice, terminated fatally. An adult, in whom the raſh was not conſiderable, but whoſe throat was very much ulcerated, became, on the third day of the eruption, ſuddenly frantic and ungovernable, the raſh diſappearing, and the ulcerations of the throat being almoſt inſtantly healed. This mode of termination is not unfrequent in the Scarlatina anginoſa. The phrenetical ſtate remains afterwards for one, two, or three weeks.

Both the Small-pox and the Hooping Cough, which were the prevailing complaints during many months of the preſent year, are now conſiderably on the decline.

Under

Under the article "Fevers or Acute Diſ-" eaſes of Infants," are compriſed catarrhal affections, the effects of dentition, with indigeſtion, and other complaints of the bowels, producing diſorder of the conſtitution; from all of which, children have this month ſuffered extenſively.

The irregular ſtate of the weather for ſome time paſt has likewiſe produced in adults violent diſorders of the bowels, hæmorrhagies, coughs, pleuritic ſtitches, and a variety of inflammatory complaints; among which, acute Rheumatiſm and catarrhal Inflammation were the moſt prevalent.

Contagious malignant Fevers bore a ſmaller proportion than uſual to other acute diſeaſes: neither have Intermittents this autumn been very numerous. The latter occur, for the moſt part, in perſons who have reſided ſome time in the neighbourhood of marſhes. We muſt not, however, conſider marſh effluvia as the univerſal cauſe of intermittents; ſince it is found, that perſons, conſtantly reſiding in the moſt healthy parts of the metropolis, are ſometimes affected with them, as happened in the two caſes above put down amongſt the periodical diſeaſes.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Oct. to the 20th of Nov.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	11
Acute Rheumatism	9
Peripneumony	2
Hæmoptoë	2
Enteritis	1
Angina	3
Otalgia*	3
Malignant Fever	4
Small-pox	6
Scarlatina anginosa	5
Measles	3
Hooping Cough	3
Puerperal Fever	4
Acute Diseases of Infants	12

* Otalgia inflammatoria; Sauvages, Nosol. Method.

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	14
Chronic Rheumatiſm	13
Sciatica	2
Pain of the Side	5
Anaſarca	5
Cephalæa	12
Vertigo	3
Hemiplegia	2
Hypochondriaſis	8
Cough, and Chronic Dyſpnœa	33
Pulmonary Conſumption	9
Pleuritic Stitches	3
Dyſpepſia	7
Gaſtrodynia	5
Enterodynia	4
Diarrhœa	7
Chloroſis	7
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	1
Menorrhagia	6
Fluor albus	4
Dyſury	1
Incontinence of urine	2
Scirrhous ovarium	1
Jaundice	2
Umbilical Hernia	1
Prolapſus ani	1

Tabes

Tabes meſenterica	3
Crusta lactea	2
Porrigo	3
Thruſh	3
Furunculus	2
Phlegmon	2
Erythema	1
Herpes	2
Scabies	3
Prurigo podicis	1
Inflamed Puſtules	2
Phthiriaſis	1
Scaly Tetter	6

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quotidian	1
Hectica infantilis	3
Hectica ſenilis	2
Hemicranium	1

From an inſpection of the above liſt, it ill appear that Catarrhal and Rheumatic vers have been the moſt predominant a-ong acute diſeaſes, ſince the laſt report. cold, damp, and foggy atmoſphere has alſo ntributed to render them more ſevere than ual, and of longer duration.

One caſe of Peripneumony, which had been neglected at its commencement, terminated in ſuppuration, and proved fatal at the end of the third week.

The two caſes of Hæmoptoë alſo terminated fatally; ſeveral pints of blood, in a pure and fluid ſtate, being on a ſudden diſcharged from the lungs, in conſequence of the rupture of ſome conſiderable veſſels.

In the caſes of Otalgia, after violent fever, delirium, and moſt excruciating pain, ſuppuration took place: the pus was diſcharged from the external meatus auditorius; and a thick, offenſive matter iſſued from the internal ear into the fauces and noſtrils.

The Hooping Cough, malignant Fevers, Small-pox, Meaſles, and Scarlatina anginoſa, continue nearly in the ſame proportion as during the two preceding months. The Scarlatina anginoſa has been very fatal in different quarters of the city.

In the liſt of Chronic Diſeaſes, it ſeems proper to take ſome notice of the article Aſthenia, comprehending the diſorders, in general, denominated nervous, which have occurred in a great proportion, eſpecially during the ſummer months. The ſtate of Aſthenia commences with general languor,

a ſenſe of laſſitude, or aching in the limbs; and often with tremors. Theſe ſymptoms are ſucceeded by ſhooting pains, head-ache, giddineſs, and a ſtrong diſpoſition to ſleep, even in the day-time. There is a ſenſation of faintneſs, or depreſſion, referred to the ſtomach, which calls for a frequent ſupply of nouriſhment: but, as the craving is not ſeconded by a proportionate activity of the digeſtive powers, an overcharge ſoon takes place, and produces heart-burn, flatulency, violent pains of the ſtomach, or nauſea, with bilious vomitings, and diarrhœa. Females, in theſe circumſtances, are diſtreſſed with a pain in the left ſide, ſometimes alternating with the pain of the ſtomach.

This complaint takes away the ability of any conſiderable corporeal exertions; and alſo renders a long attention of the mind to any ſubject, not only difficult, but painful. The patient's temper becomes irritable, fretful, and capricious; the judgment is defective and irreſolute; the imagination ſuggeſts nothing but gloomy ideas, often extending to deſpondency. No taſte remains for accuſtomed amuſements; but every feeling, every ſenſation, ſeems unpleaſant. The night-ſleep is diſturbed by frightful dreams and ſtartings;

and the patient awakes, in the morning, unrefreshed, or feeling as if much bruised and fatigued.

Sauvages, in treating of Aſthenia, includes under that title, the debility conſequent on Fevers, Small-pox, Scurvy, Hydrocephalus, and ſeveral local complaints. He farther obſerves, that in Aſthenia there is a general weakneſs of all the limbs, the vital powers retaining their full vigour; or, that the debility of the voluntary motions is much greater than could be ſuppoſed from examining the ſtate of the pulſe. This remark ſeems to have been made with the view of ſupporting an hypotheſis: —it has certainly no foundation in truth. The pulſe, in every inſtance of Aſthenia, is much reduced in force: in perſons of the ſanguine temperament, it is weak, and uſually very frequent; but, in melancholic habits, it is always feeble, ſlow, and languid. The former caſe conſtitutes the predispoſition to Syncope, Hyſteria, Chorea, Tetanus, and other convulſions; the Mania, Gaſtrodynia, Pyroſis, Diarrhœa, Tabes meſenterica, Fluor albus, Urticaria, Porrigo, and ſeveral puſtular eruptions on the ſkin. The latter predispoſes to Indigeſtion, Hemicranium, Hypochondriaſis, or Melancholia;

cholia; to Epilepſy, Catalepſy, Ephialtes, Chlorosis, Conſtipation, chronic Rheumatiſm, Struma, internal Scirrhoſities, Gravel, Dropſy, Diabetes, Purpura, and to Scaly Diſeaſes of the ſkin.

Impure air, ſedentary occupations, anxiety, and the irregular modes of living in a crowded city, are the external cauſes which lay the foundation of Aſthenia. Not only thoſe inhabitants are affected with it who live delicately, and withhold themſelves from no indulgence, but labourers, ſervants, and all perſons confined to a dull, unvaried track of buſineſs, are ſenſible of its effects. In ſummer, the complaint is much aggravated by the relaxing influence of a warm, duſky atmoſphere; to which may be added the ſtifling heat reflected from continuous brick walls, windows, and a burning pavement. Unhappy they who are doomed to toil in ſuch a ſituation throughout the year! who ſeldom enjoy the ſun's direct rays in the colder ſeaſons; and during the hot months "are never "fanned by the weſtern breeze." In the moments of languor, they court the deluſive aid of ſpirits, by which all their complaints are rendered more inveterate; they gradually droop, and pine; become hectical, conſump-

tive, or paralytic; or, falling into the ſtate of chronic weakneſs, ſo well deſcribed by Dr. Withers, remain, through life, a burthen to their friends, the public, and themſelves.

Patients in the firſt ſtage of Aſthenia, or whoſe conſtitutions have not been too deeply injured by a long reſidence in town, retrieve their health by means of cold bathing, tonic medicines, and occaſional excurſions into the country. There, a change of purſuits, a more regular plan of diet and exercife, a more clear and purer atmoſphere, the ſalubrious exhalations from growing vegetables, and the grateful ſtimulus of their odours, in a ſhort time reſtore vigour to the body, and, along with it, firmneſs and ſerenity to the mind.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Nov. to the 20th of Dec.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH 13
Pleuriſy . . . . . 1.
Enteritis

Enteritis	1
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Ulcerated Sore-throat	3
Acute Rheumatism	6
Hæmoptoë	5
Malignant Fever	4
Small-pox	3
Scarlatina anginosa	3
Measles	8
Febrile Nettle-rash	1
Slow Fever	2
Puerperal Fever	2
Dysentery	1
Tetanus	1
Acute Diseases of Infants	12

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyspnœa	44
Pulmonary Consumption	9
Chronic Rheumatism	12
Lumbago	2
Asthenia	12
Paralysis	2
Anasarca	5
Œdema puerperale	2
Hysteria	2
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Epilepsy	2

Cephalæa	3
Gaſtrodynia	6
Enterodynia	5
Diarrhœa	10
Colica	2
Colica Pictonum	1
Chloroſis	8
Menorrhagia	3
Scirrhus uteri	3
Scirrhus of the liver	2
Jaundice	1
Gravel	3
Renal Calculus	2
Incontinence of urine	1
Worms	4
Ulcer of the rectum	1
Tabes meſenterica	3
Lepra	1
Impetigo	2
Scaly Tetter	2
Thruſh	3
Cruſta lactea	1
Itch	3

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quotidian	2
Tertian	1

Hemi-

Hemicranium	1
Hectica adoleſcentium	3
Hectica ſenilis	1

All the inflammatory and hæmorrhagic diſeaſes, put down in the preceding liſt, were brought to a favourable concluſion. The caſes of Pleuriſy, and Inflammation of the bowels, were ſo violent as to require repeated venæſection, along with the uſe of bliſters, and other remedies.

Infants have been, during the preſent month, very generally affected with catarrhal Fever, a hard ſounding cough, great difficulty of breathing, and a watery diſcharge from the noſe and eyes. The above ſymptoms were relieved in a few days, by the application of leeches to the cheſt, by bliſters, and antimonials.

The cold, wet, or damp weather, which ſucceeded the ſhort froſt at the beginning of the month, ſeems to have given riſe to many putrid Fevers and ulcerated Sore-throats. Theſe prove untoward and lingering; though I have not, as yet, met with any fatal caſe. A young lady, about fourteen years of age, after having had, for ſome days, ſlight ſpecks of ulceration in the throat, was ſeized with

all the ſymptoms of a malignant Fever: her tongue became dry and brown; a black cruſt covered the teeth; her eyes were dull and glaſſy; ſhe was alternately delirious and comatoſe till the 12th day of the fever, when a raſh appeared, very much reſembling the Scarlatina, and was diffuſed over the whole body. It continued to the fourteenth day, and then diſappeared: a complete criſis of the fever took place at the ſame time. The ſervant who attended was affected with a ſimilar fever three days after the young lady's recovery, but has not had either the ſore-throat or the eruption on the ſkin.

The Meaſles are now more prevalent than the Small-pox or Scarlatina, and have been diffuſed to moſt of the villages near London: many infants have died of the cough and hectic fever which ſucceed them. According to the Bills of Mortality, not 200 perſons died of the Small-pox in the month of November; whereas the number of deaths in July and Auguſt was 772. It is to be remarked, that the Bills only record the death of one perſon by the Scarlet Fever, between the 8th and 29th of November, a period during which there occurred many fatal caſes of that diſeaſe.

The

The caſe of Tetanus was produced by a
ht wound, at the root of the little toe,
n a ruſty nail. No material inconveni-
e was felt for ſome days after the acci-
t; but it was finally ſucceeded by a locked
, pain at the ſternum, irregular convulſive
ions of the back and abdomen, violent
nps of the extremities, a very quick,
ll pulſe, and occaſional delirium. The
ent's toe was at firſt ſwelled and in-
ned: after the application of poultices for
ıy or two, it remained free from pain, but
always a livid appearance during the con-
ſions. He died at the end of a fortnight,
ıg exhauſted with extreme pain and irri-
on, from which medicine could afford him
more than a ſlight and temporary reſpite.

ls of Mortality from the 27th of September to the 27th of December.

ɛſs	6	Cold	4
rtive	43	Conſumption	1246
l	354	Convulſions	1117
plexy	35	Croup	8
ɛ	1	Dropſy	184
ma	118	Evil	2
ding	2	Falling Sickneſs	1
ridden	3	Fever	450
ɛr	21	Flux	7
d-bed	54	Gout	27

Gravel

Gravel	3	Sores	1
Grief	1	Sore-throat	5
Hooping Cough	123	Spotted Fever	1
Jaundice	21	Stone	7
Jaw locked	1	Stoppage of the stomach	2
Inflammation	110	Suddenly	33
Lunatic	22	Swine-pox	1
Measles	93	Teeth	80
Mortification	53	Thrush	18
Palsy	18	Tumor in the womb	2
Pleurisy	3	Ulcers	1
Quinsy	1	Vomiting	1
Rickets	1	Water in the head	19
Rupture	4	Worms	1
Scarlet Fever	3		
Small-pox	778		

Total of deaths 5089: of which, 1822 were of children under two years of age; 20 of persons aged between ninety and one hundred; and 2 upward of one hundred years.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of December, 1796, to the 20th of January, 1797.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	23
Peripneumony	4

Acute

Acute Rheumatiſm	5
Inflammatory Sore-throat	11
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Otalgia	1
Enteritis	2
Malignant Fever	2
Slow Fever	1
Hooping Cough	4
Meaſles	6
Scarlatina anginoſa	11
Small-pox	5
Hæmoptoë	2
Hæmatemeſis	1
Hæmaturia	1
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	8

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	50
Pulmonary Conſumption	14
Chronic Rheumatiſm	8
Lumbago	2
Aſthenia	7
Dropſy	4
Œdema puerperale	1
Paralyſis	2
Cephalæa	5
Hydrocephalus	1
Epilepſy	1

Dyſpepſia

Dyſpepſia	7
Gaſtrodynia	7
Enterodynia	6
Colica Pictonum	2
Obſtipatio	3
Diarrhœa	7
Worms	3
Scrophula	3
Chloroſis	6
Menorrhagia	2
Prolapſus uteri	1
Fluor albus	2
Mammary Abſceſs	2
Scirrhous ovarium	1
Scirrhous liver	1
Gravel and Dyſury	6
Thruſh	3
Shingles	2
Porrigo	2
Itch	3
Boils	1
Prurigo	1
Intertrigo	1
Lepra	1
Purpura	1

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quartan	1
Hectica adolescentium	2
Hectica senilis	1

The quick and irregular interchanges of frost, snow, and rain, during the present month, have been productive of Coughs, catarrhal Fevers, internal Inflammations, and an aggravated state of Phthisis pulmonalis.

Several persons, in the decline of life, have died suddenly from a violent attack of Catarrh, or the Peripneumonia notha of SYDENHAM, attended with a quick fluttering pulse, great difficulty of breathing, pain or oppression of the chest, head-ache, vertigo, and slight delirium; the cheeks being, at first, red and flushed, as SYDENHAM remarks, but presently becoming livid and bloated. Under these circumstances, a large effusion of lymph usually takes place into the cavity of the chest and pericardium. Blisters, diaphoretics, gentle purgatives, and preparations of squill, seem to be the remedies which afford most certain alleviation. Blood-letting is inadmissible: of those who have been bled, at any period of the disease, I scarcely ever recollect to have seen one survive; and am convinced,

convinced that Dr SYDENHAM'S mode of practice, in this complaint, would be almoſt univerſally deſtructive. The death of one patient was accelerated in conſequence of the alarm and confuſion occaſioned by the dreadful fire at Mr. Meux's brewhouſe, near which he reſided.

Young perſons, more eſpecially females, are ſometimes affected with the above ſpecies of Peripneumony; and have often ſo great a degree of dyſpnœa, that they cannot lie down in bed, or take any ſound ſleep, for many ſucceſſive nights: the pulſe is feeble, and very quick, there being not leſs than 140 or 160 pulſations in a minute. In this diſorder bleeding is equally fatal to the young and to thoſe of an advanced age: young perſons, however, in general, recover, if proper and early attention be paid to them.

The inſidious appearances of this complaint ſometimes lead unexperienced or careleſs practitioners into another error. The fur upon the tongue, after a few days, aſſumes a brownish colour: this circumſtance, added to the ſtate of the pulſe, the loſs of ſtrength, and the abſence of cough, ſuggeſts the idea of a malignant or putrid Fever, if the attention be not directed to the heaving of the cheſt,

cheſt, and to the exciting cauſe of the diſeaſe.

The uſe of bark, wine, and aromatics, in ſuch a caſe, it will appear evident, cannot be leſs pernicious than the oppoſite mode of practice, by repeated blood-letting, ſtrong purgatives, nitre, &c. ſo often fatally adopted by thoſe who preſcribe to the name of a diſeaſe, without ſufficiently conſidering the ſtate of the conſtitution affected with it.

The Meaſles continue, in nearly the ſame degree, as ſtated for the two preceding months. The Scarlatina anginoſa and Small-pox are ſtill abating.

According to the London Bills of Mortality, there have died, between the 20th of December and the 17th of January, of the Meaſles, twenty-one; of the Scarlet Fever, three; of the Small-pox ninety-ſeven.

In the general Bill for the year 1796, it appears, that 307 have died of the Meaſles; 3548 of the Small-pox; and 1547 in other acute diſeaſes. On examining the Bills of Mortality, from the year 1628 to the preſent time, it will be found that at ſome periods a greater number has died of the Small-pox within twelve months; but that, in 1796, the proportion of deaths from this complaint, to

the

the whole annual mortality, has exceeded that of any preceding year. The only years in which the deaths, by the Small-pox, amounted to more than 3000, were the following:

	Total of Deaths.	*By the Small-pox.*		
In 1725,	25,523.	3188,	or 125	in 1000.
1736,	27,581.	3014,	100	ditto.
1752,	20,485.	3538,	172	ditto.
1757,	21,213.	3296,	154	ditto.
1763,	26,143.	3582,	137	ditto.
1768,	25,639.	3028,	128	ditto.
1772,	26,053.	3992,	153	ditto.
1796,	19,288.	3548,	183	ditto.

From the report published by the committee of the Small-pox and Inoculation Hospitals, it appears, that of those who take the disease casually, the mortality is in the proportion of one to six. It must be added, as a proof of the advantages of inoculation, that not more than one patient out of four or five hundred dies of the inoculated Small-pox. The number of patients admitted into the Small-pox Hospital, from the 26th of September, 1746, to the 1st of January, 1796, has been 19,202: the number of patients inoculated within the same period, 29,890.

During

During laſt year, 1506 were inoculated at the hoſpital, and only three out of that number died there. The number of patients admitted in the natural Small-pox was 480. As the hoſpitals are ſituated without the Bills of Mortality, their own regiſter alone records the deaths which happen there, and which are according to the average above ſtated, or ſomewhat more, the caſes admitted being generally of the moſt unfavourable kind.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of January to the 20th of February.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	20
Peripneumony	3
Pleuriſy	1
Angina	3
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Acute Rheumatiſm	8

Malignant

Malignant Fever	5
Scarlatina anginoſa	3
Meaſles	2
Small-pox	3
Eryſipelas	2
Aphthous Sore-throat	4
Hooping Cough	3
Slow Fever	2
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	6
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	7

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	45
Pulmonary Conſumption	9
Chronic Rheumatiſm	7
Spitting of blood	2
Hæmorrhagy from the noſe	4
Cephalæa	8
Apoplexy	1
Hydrocephalus	3
Epilepſy	1
Aſthenia	15
Hyſteria	3
Paralyſis	1
Syncope	1
Hypochondriaſis	3
Dropſy	4
Scrophula	5

Chloroſis

Chlorosis and Amenorrhœa	6
Abortion	2
Pain of the side	3
Dyspepsia	13
Gastrodynia	7
Enterodynia	3
Diarrhœa	6
Obstipatio	3
Bilious vomiting	2
Hæmorrhoids	2
Fluor albus	3
Scirrhus uteri	1
Tabes mesenterica	4
Worms	6
Jaundice	1
Gravel	1
Varices	1
Scaly Tetter	1
Prurigo	2
Nettle-rash	2
Purpura	1
Herpes miliaris	1
Scabies	3
Impetigo	1
Porrigo	2

In the present month, the weather has been considerably milder than during the preceding one.

one. The ſeries of diſeaſes in each will, notwithſtanding, be found very nearly to correſpond. It is likewiſe obſervable, that whenever catarrhal, pneumonic, and other inflammatory diſeaſes prevail extenſively, the proportion of contagious complaints is much diminiſhed.

One of the caſes of peritoneal Inflammation, which had been neglected for ten days, terminated fatally. On examination of the parts affected after death, a large quantity of pus was found effuſed into the abdominal cavity; the bowels were glued together by a thick, inflammatory exudation, and many portions of them appeared black and contracted, but no gangrene had taken place: the colon was ſuperficially ulcerated in ſeveral places.

Inflammation of the peritoneum and omentum frequently occurs here, both in adults, and children, or even infants, and becomes fatal through improper treatment. Being attended with bilious vomiting, great depreſſion of ſtrength, and a ſmall weak pulſe, it is often miſtaken for a colic, or enterodynia ariſing from flatulence, and a too irritable ſtate of the alimentary canal: whence opiates, warm purgatives, aromatics, and ſpirituous cordials, are

uſually

uſually given. The conſequences of this practice are always fatal. Not only the puriform effuſion and exudation take place, but likewiſe extenſive ulceration: ſometimes the whole omentum is converted into a purulent maſs, or wholly deſtroyed: in other caſes, there are many circular gangrenous patches on the ſurface of the inteſtines. The complaint at an early period is eaſily relieved by the application of a number of leeches round the umbilicus; by pediluvium, fomentations, and gentle purgatives. Cupping-glaſſes cannot be applied on account of the tenſion and forenefs of the abdomen. It may not be amiſs to obſerve, that bleeding from the arm is much leſs effectual in relieving the pain and inflammation than the repeated uſe of leeches.

The deaths ſtated in the Bills of Mortality for the laſt four weeks are as follow:

Small-pox	67	Hydrocephalus	2
Meaſles	14	Pulmonary complaints,	510
Scarlet Fever	1	Rheumatiſm and Gout,	11
Eryſipelas	1	Dropſy	51
Hooping Cough	42	Cancer	2
Fevers	132	Inflammation and Ulcers	32
Diſeaſes of Infants	41	Rupture	5
Puerperal caſes	19		
Apoplexy and Palſy	25		

The number of deaths referred to pulmonary Conſumption ſeems enormous. I ſhall endeavour at ſome future period to aſcertain, by a correct mode of inveſtigation, whether this article in the Bills of Mortality be conſiſtent with truth.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of February to the 20th of March.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	48
Pleuriſy	2
Hæmoptoë	3
Angina	2
Acute Rheumatiſm	5
Small-pox	4
Meaſles	2
Scarlatina anginoſa	2
Eryſipelas	2
Malignant Fever	2
Slow Fever	1

Puerperal

Puerperal Fever	4
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	9

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	74
Phthiſis Pulmonalis	14
Pleurodyne	2
Chronic Rheumatiſm	11
Lumbago	2
Aſthenia	10
Dropſy	5
Hypochondriaſis	2
Cephalæa	5
Hyſteria	1
Epilepſy	2
Hydrocephalus	1
Gaſtrodynia	15
Dyſpepſia	7
Enterodynia	5
Diarrhœa	7
Conſtipatio	2
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	2
Menorrhagia	3
Fluor albus	2
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	6
Scrophula	4
Tabes meſenterica	2
Worms	3

Scirrhous liver	1
Jaundice	4
Hernia	2
Prolapſus uteri	1
Tooth-ache	3
Scaly Tetter	2
Herpes	1
Itch and Prurigo	5
Lupus	1

Nearly one half of the caſes in the above liſt are diſeaſes of the lungs, occaſioned by the ſharp and intenſely cold north-eaſt winds, which have prevailed during the month. The ſymptoms of the epidemic Catarrh were, head-ache, ſometimes attended with vertigo; a thin, acrimonious diſcharge from the noſtrils; ſlight inflammation of the throat; a ſenſe of conſtriction in the cheſt, with a frequent dry cough; pains in the limbs; a white tongue; a quick and ſmall pulſe; with a ſenſation of languor, and general debility. This diſorder continued about eight days; and then terminated with gentle perſpirations, or in ſome inſtances by a diarrhœa. It has been, by many practitioners, denominated an Influenza, but, I think, not with ſtrict propriety, the complaint being merely epidemical

nical from a particular ſtate of the atmoſphere, and not propagated by contagion. Coughs have been remarkably ſevere and obſtinate: they were frequently attended with painful ſtitches, and ſpitting of blood. Several perſons, not previouſly much indiſpoſed, were ſeized on a ſudden with a violent cough and great difficulty of breathing: the countenance preſently became livid and bloated; the pulſe weak and fluttering; and they expired in a very ſhort time. I recollect many ſimilar inſtances of ſudden death, after expoſure to cold, during the ſevere winter in the year 1794-5.

One of the caſes of Scarlatina anginoſa, which appeared ſlight in the firſt ſtage, began to aſſume the malignant form of that diſeaſe on the 5th day, as ſoon as the eruption declined. The patient was a girl about three years old, who had been previouſly in a good ſtate of health. At the time mentioned, ſhe became comatoſe: the eyes were dull and glaſſy; the pulſe uſually 144, or upwards: her throat, tongue, and palate, were covered with aphthæ: a large quantity of phlegm collected in the fauces, and produced a rattling in the breath; her cheeks were flushed and tumid: whenever ſhe was roused from her

ſlumber, ſhe was extremely irritable and fretful; but ſoon after returned to a ſtate of torpor and inſenſibility. On the eighth day, the right cheek and eye-lids were affected with an eriſipelatous tumour, which preſently cloſed the eye. On the ninth, a conſiderable diſcharge began to take place, from the eyes and noſtrils, of a thin acrimonious fluid, producing excoriation, which was much increaſed by the little patient's conſtantly rubbing or picking the noſe and lips. As ſoon as this diſcharge appeared, the ſecretion of the phlegm in the throat ceaſed, and with it the diſagreeable rattling in expiration and inſpiration. On the twelfth day, the forearms were again covered with the ſcarlet eruption; and patches of it likewiſe appeared about the loins and nates. The raſh declined in two or three days, but without any alleviation of the coma, or other febrile ſymptoms. There was indeed no material alteration till the eighteenth day of the diſeaſe, when the eriſipelatous tumour began to ſubſide, and its ſurface to deſquamate, ſo that the eye could be opened. The pulſe, at this time, returned to its uſual ſtandard; the tongue became ſoft and moiſt, though ulcerated in ſeveral places; the dozing and inſenſibility were removed;

the

the child was able to ſit up, and fought for amuſement. On the twentieth day there was a return of the ſwelling in the under eye-lid; but no other morbid ſymptom remained excepting debility and great fretfulneſs.

This child, being the daughter of an eminent and amiable phyſician, was well nurſed, and attended with anxious care, otherwiſe its chance of recovery had been but ſmall; there being few inſtances of eſcape from a diſorder ſo virulent.

The deaths reported during the laſt four weeks in the Bills of Mortality are as follow:

Aſthma and Conſumption	578	Apoplexy and Palſy,	28
Hooping Cough	41	Lunatic	10
Fevers	134	Jaundice	4
Small-pox	32	Dropſy	81
Scarlet Fever	1	Inflammation and Mortification	57
Meaſles	7	Fiſtula	12
Puerperal Fever	24	Cancer	20
Croup	1	Gravel	2
Convulſions	307	Gout	14
Teething and Thruſh,	51	From Old age	186
Water in the head	5		

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of March to the 20th of April.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	16
Peripneumony	2
Hæmoptoë	6
Epistaxis	2
Angina	4
Otalgia	1
Ophthalmia	2
Peritoneal Inflammation	3
Enteritis	1
Phlegmone Testis	1
Acute Rheumatism	4
Gout	2
Scarlatina anginosa	4
Measles	2
Small-pox	3
Hooping Cough	3
Malignant Fever	2
Slow Fever	3
Puerperal Fever	2
Acute Diseases of Infants	9

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	37
Phthiſis Pulmonalis	12
Chronic Rheumatiſm	6
Sciatica	2
Nephralgia	4
Pleurodyne	2
Aſthenia	13
Hyſteria	2
Epilepſy	2
Paralyſis	3
Cephalæa	2
Apoplexy	1
Dyſpepſia	12
Gaſtrodynia	4
Enterodynia	6
Diarrhœa	5
Obſtipatio	1
Colica Pictonum	2
Hæmorrhoids	3
Hernia	2
Worms	3
Dyſury	2
Menorrhagia	4
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	8
Fluor albus	3
Scirrhous ovarium	1
Scirrhous liver	1

Anaſarca	4
Hydrothorax	3
Rickets	2
Scrophula	5
Porrigo	3
Itch	5
Ecthyma	1
Purpura	1

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	1
Hectica adoleſcentium	2

The number of catarrhal complaints has been conſiderably diminiſhed within the preſent month: inflammatory diſeaſes, however, appear, on the whole, to have been moſt predominant. One of the caſes of Peripneumony terminated fatally; the patient, a female, having been bled largely, and repeatedly. The Meaſles and the Hooping Cough are not very frequent at the weſt end of the town; but, as I underſtand, prevail much in the city, more eſpecially the latter diſeaſe: forty-four children have died of it, between the 21ſt of March and the 18th of April, according to the report in the Bills of Mortality.

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One of the three caſes of Scarlatina anginoſa proved fatal: the patient was a delicate boy, about four years of age, who ſtruggled with the complaint till the 19th day, and then expired ſuddenly.—In the caſe of this diſeaſe given laſt month, a conſiderable quantity of matter formed in the ſwelling of the under eye-lid, which was diſcharged by an opening, made on the 24th day from the beginning of the fever: the abſceſs healed in a ſhort time; and the child has ſince been gradually regaining her health and ſtrength.

After the abatement of the epidemic Catarrh, a violent diſeaſe fell upon cats, by which many hundreds of thoſe domeſtic animals periſhed. The particular ſymptoms of their malady, I had not a ſufficient opportunity of aſcertaining: but, from diſſections, it appeared, that the bowels had been drawn together by a violent cramp, or ſpaſmodic conſtriction, involving likewiſe the omentum, and preventing any paſſage. In ſome, the inteſtines were partially red, or blackiſh: but, in the greater number of inſtances, the contraction and extraordinary twiſting of the bowels had taken place without any marks of inflammation.

Between the 21ſt of March and the 18th of April, the Bills of Mortality report 1500 deaths; 29 by the Small-pox; 526 of infants and children under five years of age; 502 from Aſthma and Conſumption. I formerly noticed the large proportion of deaths ſtated in the Bills of Mortality as ariſing from pulmonary complaints; and propoſed to apply ſome teſt, in order to aſcertain the correctneſs of this article. The only one I have to offer is the reſult of my own experience, by exhibiting a fair and exact account of all the fatal caſes which have occurred during the laſt two years. — However uncomfortable ſuch a review may be to a phyſician, I have for once ventured to make it; and the following ſtatement may be depended upon as preciſely correct. — Out of 4500 perſons admitted under my care, in the years 1795 and 1796, 246 died from the following diſorders: of Pulmonary Conſumption 77; Hæmorrhagy from the lungs 5; Peripneumony 1; Hooping Cough 3; Cough, ſucceeding the Meaſles, 6; Small-pox 20; Scarlatina anginoſa 2; Malignant Fever 8; Slow Fever 3; Summer Fever 1; Puerperal Fever 2; Ulcerated malignant Sore-throat 3; Peritoneal Inflammation 2; Inflammation of

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the bowels, and Hernia, 4; Dyſentery 1; Ulcer of the rectum 1; Pſoas abſceſs 1; Gangrenous Ulcer 1; Tetanus, with locked jaw, 2; Acute Diſeaſes of Infants, under two years of age, 14; Scrophula, Rickets, and Tabes meſenterica, 10; Hydrocephalus 7; Scirrhus and Cancer uteri 3; Cancer of the breaſt 3; gradual Decline, moſtly with Scirrhous liver, and Dropſy, 21; Decay from old age 7; Jaundice 1; Stone 1; Stoppage of the bowels 2; Diſorder of the ſtomach and bowels, from exceſs in drinking ſpirits, 14; Apoplexy 6; Paralyſis 8; obſtinate Head-ache 1; Menorrhagia 3; Abortion 1.

In the above account, the deaths from pulmonary complaints, excluſive of the Hooping Cough and Meaſles, amount to one-third of the whole mortality; which affords a proof, that the proportion ſtated in the Bills of Mortality is not over-rated. That proportion, during the winter months, will be found to vary from one-third to one-half. In the general Bill for the year 1796, if we exclude executions, other violent deaths, and abortive or ſtill-born infants, the number of deaths is reduced to 17,648; of which 5264 are referred to pulmonary diſeaſes. This

proportion

proportion will not differ much from that ſtated as the reſult of my own experience, allowance being made for the extraordinary fatality of the Small-pox, in many parts of the city, during the year 1796. If the deaths by the Small-pox, and of Infants under two years of age, be deducted from the ſum total, the proportional mortality from pulmonary complaints, to that of all other diſeaſes, is as 5264 to 8680, or as 1 to 1½ nearly.

It muſt therefore be allowed that diſeaſes of the lungs are more fatal in this place than any other ſpecies of diſeaſe; which is partly referrable to the variable ſtate of our climate; but perhaps not leſs to our modes of living, and to the little attention paid in adapting the dreſs to the change of ſeaſons.

In my own liſt, the article of pulmonary Conſumption includes caſes of ulcerations of the lungs, and alteration of their texture, in conſequence of pneumonic Inflammation and repeated Catarrhs. I apprehend not more than a fourth part of the whole number of caſes put down could be referred to proper Phthiſis, ariſing from the ſlow and ſucceſſive ſuppurations

ſuppurations of tubercles in ſtrumous conſtitutions.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of April to the 20th of May.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	8
Peripneumony	2
Angina	2
Ophthalmia	2
Hæmoptoë	4
Acute Rheumatiſm	4
Gout	2
Malignant Fever	4
Scarlatina anginoſa	6
Small-pox	3
Meaſles	1
Aphthous Sore-throat	2
Hooping Cough	2
Slow Fever	3
Puerperal Fever	2
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	6

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	23
Phthiſis pulmonalis	10
Chronic Rheumatiſm	11
Aſthenia	15
Dropſy	7
Hyſteria	3
Epilepſy	1
Syncope	2
Apoplexy	1
Paralyſis	3
Dyſpepſia	14
Gaſtrodynia	6
Enterodynia	8
Diarrhœa	7
Conſtipatio	2
Hæmatemeſis	1
Hæmorrhoids	3
Worms	4
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	12
Fluor albus	6
Menorrhagia	3
Prolapſus uteri	1
Scirrhus uteri	1
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Scirrhous liver	4
Jaundice	3

Scrophula

Scrophula	4
Tabes	4
Purpura	1
Itch	3
Scald-head	2
Inflamed Puſtules	2
Noli me tangere	1

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	1
Hemicranium	3
Hectica ſenilis	4

The warm and mild weather, which commenced on the 12th of May, put a ſtop to the pneumonic and catarrhal complaints, ſo prevalent during the two preceding months. Since the beginning of May, the Scarlatina anginoſa has become more frequent than any other contagious diſeaſe, both in town and in many parts of the country: the diſeaſe has generally occurred in its malignant and fatal form, which, at this ſeaſon of the year, is very unuſual. However, the method of treatment formerly recommended (ſee page 25) has been uniformly ſucceſsful in the caſes preſented to my own obſervation.

The

The other Acute Diſeaſes having afforded nothing worthy of particular notice, I ſhall at preſent offer a few remarks on the chronic Purpura, a title which has often appeared in the foregoing monthly liſts of diſeaſes, and which was intended to expreſs the complaint better known under the appellation of Petechiæ ſine febre. A ſlight degree of this complaint often takes place in women and children, who live on a poor diet, and uſe little exerciſe. Without any conſiderable ſenſation of illneſs, an eruption of dark red ſpots appears in the ſkin of the legs, arms, breaſts, and abdomen. Theſe ſpots are preciſely the ſame as the Petechiæ in malignant Fevers; and, with regard to ſize, colour, &c. very much reſemble flea-bites, only being without the central point made by the ſting of the inſect. On the legs, however, they are uſually ſomewhat larger, and often become confluent in irregular patches. The only diſorder attending the eruption is a ſenſation of general weakneſs and languor, without any febrile ſymptoms; and a cure is readily performed by the application of proper diet and a ſufficient degree of exerciſe. Another form of the diſeaſe, which may be entitled Purpura hæmorrhagica, is much

more

more violent and dangerous. For ſome weeks previous to the appearance of purple ſpots, the patient complains of an oppreſſive ſenſation of languor, wearineſs, faintneſs, and a gnawing pain at the ſtomach. Sometimes the eruption is more immediately preceded by ſhiverings, nauſea, bilious vomitings, and acute pains of the limbs referred to the bones. The ſpots appear firſt on the legs; and afterwards, without any certain order, on the thighs, arms, and trunk of the body. Their primary colour is a bright red, but this, within a day or two, changes to a purple or livid hue. They are conſiderably larger than the ſpots of the Purpura ſimplex, but, like them, are always nearly of a circular form. Sometimes they are few and diſtinct, ſometimes numerous and coherent; they are ſometimes diſtributed uniformly over the ſurface of the body, ſometimes in irregular cluſters. In many caſes, they are interſperſed with vibices, or livid patches, reſembling the effects of a bruiſe.

The haemorrhagy, which always attends this kind of eruption, is at firſt very profuſe; and, however it may be checked, returns frequently; in ſome inſtances, every day at a ſtated hour: it takes place from the noſtrils, throat,

throat, and mouth; often from the lungs, ſtomach, or inteſtines; alſo from the uterus, even at an advanced period of life. A ſoftneſs and ſwelling of the gums is not a conſtant appearance in the hæmorrhagic Purpura; when blood is diſcharged from the mouth, it ſeems to ſpring from abraſions on the inſide of the cheeks, on the tongue, or tonſils; all which ſurfaces are occaſionally covered with purple ſpots.

This diſeaſe has no regular or ſtated termination; it has been protracted in the different caſes which I have ſeen, from three weeks to twelve months or upwards. In none of thoſe caſes did the diſeaſe prove fatal: it appears, however, from the account of medical authors, that the hæmorrhagy has, on ſome occaſions, been ſo violent as to produce almoſt immediate death.* When the diſeaſe has continued ſome length of time, anaſarcous ſwellings, and gangrenous ulcers of the extremities, uſually ſucceed.

The exciting cauſes of the hæmorrhagic Purpura ſeem to be poor diet, a ſedentary mode of life, watching, and anxiety of mind.

* See the caſes in the Acta Nator. Curioſor. & Lipſiæ Exercitat. de Scorbuto.

Hence

Hence it affects women in a much larger proportion than men. The complaint, however, is, in this place, very frequent among children who live well, and are under no particular reſtraint. In ſuch caſes, I apprehend it muſt be referred to the impure air of a large city, and to the want of the ſalubrious exhalations from growing vegetables. As a proof of this poſition, it may be mentioned, that children affected with the diſeaſe, on whom the uſual remedies have been applied with little ſucceſs, are preſently cured, after being removed into the country.

The mode of treatment for this diſeaſe is ſimple, and may be compriſed in a very few words. It is proper to recommend a generous diet, the uſe of wine, Peruvian bark, and acids, along with moderate exerciſe in the open air, and whatever may tend to produce cheerfulneſs or ſerenity of mind.

Caſes of the Purpura, or Petechiæ ſine febre, have of late been multiplied in periodical publications relating to medicine, as if the diſeaſe were new or extraordinary. It muſt, undoubtedly, be conſidered as a branch of the true Scurvy, and, as ſuch, it has been properly noticed by the writers on that ſubject two hundred years ago. It was not

unknown

unknown to the ancients; for, Hippocrates himſelf has deſcribed the eruption, and mentioned ſome of the circumſtances which uſually attend it; ſee his Prænot. Coac. ſect. 2. Actuarius has alſo ſhewn his acquaintance with this diſeaſe, and theorizes upon it, according to the notions of his own time. De Meth. Med. lib. i. cap. 23.

Caſes of the Purpura are related by Amatus Luſitanus,* Eugalenus,† Horſtius,‡ Pezoldus,‖ Liſter,§ Hoffman,¶ Behren,** Werlhoff,†† and by different writers in the Acta Naturæ Curioſorum.‡‡ In the ninth volume

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* De morbo Pulicari ſine febre; Curat. Med. 70. Cent. 3, anno 1550.

† De Scorbuto. See obſ. 2. 33. 59. 62. 68. 69. 72.

‡ Obſ. 17. lib. 5.

‖ Obſ. Ch. Select. 6.

§ Exerc. de Scorbuto, anno 1680; ſee caſes 1. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12.

¶ De Purp. Scorb. tom. iv. and Supplem. part I. and II.

** De Affect. a Mitylis.

†† De Variol. & Anthrac. cap. iii. §. 15.

‡‡ Tom. i. obſ. 35 & 79. — Tom. iii. 79. — Tom. iv. p. 468. — Tom. v. obſ. 30. — Tom. vii. obſ. 110. 131. &c. &c. —

volume of this work, there is a complete hiſtory of this diſeaſe, under the denomination of Petechia mendaces. General obſervations upon it have alſo been made by Riverius,* Sydenham, Cuſſon,† Sauvages,‡ Burſerius,‖ Strack,§ and many other reſpectable authors, to which ſcarcely any thing of importance can now be added.

The Bills of Mortality, from the 18th of April to the 16th of May, report 1341 deaths: from

Ague	2	Cancer	8
Apoplexy	14	Convulſions	395
Aſthma and Conſumption	466	Croup	1
		Dropſy	67

&c. — Compare Phil. Tranſ. vol. liii. — Commerc. Literar. Norimberg, 1735. Hebd. 2 and 7. — Acta Hafnenſ. vol. ii. — Dr. Duncan's Medical Caſes, and Med. Comment. — Medical Facts, vol. ii. and a caſe by Dr. Aikin, in the Mem. of the Medical Society of London, vol. iii.

* Prac. Med. l. xvii. cap. 1. and obſ. 18. Cent. 2. obſ. 21. Cent. 1.

† De Purpura ſine febre.

‡ De Phænigmo Petechiali.

‖ Inſtit. Med. vol. ii. 10.

§ Obſ. Med. de Morbo cum Petechiis.

Fever

Fever	119	Palſy	16
Gout	12	Piles	1
Hæmorrhagy	1	Pleuriſy	1
Head-ache	2	Puerperal caſes	19
Hooping Cough	23	Rupture	2
Jaundice	16	Scarlet Fever	1
Jaw locked	1	Small-pox	20
Lues Venerea	4	Still-born and Abortive	45
Lunatic	10	Stone	1
Inflammation, Abſceſs, and Mortification	42	Teeth	34
Old age	111	Thruſh	2
		Water in the head	16

From this ſtatement it will appear, that more than one-third of the deaths were produced by pulmonic diſeaſes. Of infants, under two years of age, three hundred and eighty-three (above one-fourth of the whole number) have died within the time above ſpecified. As only one hundred and twenty or thirty caſes are referred, by the Bills, to diſeaſes peculiar to infants, abortive births being included, the remaining number (about two hundred and ſixty) muſt be made up from the indefinite articles of Fever and Convulſions.

Laſtly, it may be remarked, that one hundred and twenty-two perſons died between the ages of ſeventy and ninety.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of May to the 20th of June.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	10
Scarlatina anginosa	6
Small-pox	3
Swine-pox	2
Malignant Fever	3
Catarrh	6
Acute Rheumatism	3
Gout	2
Otalgia	1
Pleurisy	1
Inflammation of the bowels	1
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Summer Fever	1
Aphthous Sore-throat	2
Herpetic Sore-throat	1
Puerperal Fever	1
Acute Diseases of Infants	6

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	24
Hyſteria	3
Syncope	2
Epilepſy	1
Cephalæa	3
Apoplexy	1
Paralyſis	2
Dropſy	6
Chronic Rheumatiſm	5
Cough and Dyſpnœa	15
Spitting of blood	4
Pulmonary Conſumption	8
Pleurodyne	3
Dyſpepſia	12
Gaſtrodynia	4
Enterodynia	3
Diarrhœa	3
Chloroſis	4
Fluor albus	4
Menorrhagia	2
Prolapſus uteri	1
Worms	3
Gravel and Dyſury	4
Hæmorrhoids	2
Scirrhous liver	1
Scrophula	6

Tabes

Tabes	5
Herpes zoſter (Shingles)	2
Herpetic Ringworm	3
Scaly Tetter	1
Porrigo	2
Itch	3
Morbus Pedicularis	1

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	1
Hectica ſenilis	5
Hectica adoleſcentium	2
Hemicranium	1

The cold and wet weather in the month of May protracted the duration of inflammatory diſeaſes, and made an unfavourable ſeaſon for the Meaſles, Scarlatina, &c. In a girl about nine years old, the eruption of the Meaſles was ſuddenly repelled, ſoon after its appearance, by expoſure to cold. A moſt violent fever enſued: the pulſe became quick, ſmall, and irregular; the tongue was moiſt, though furred; the eyes dull and heavy; the ſkin pale and livid; the extremities generally cold: ſhe had a ſlight cough: her breathing was laborious, and attended with a rattling in the throat, owing to an increaſed ſecretion

of phlegm from the lungs. She was uſually comatoſe; but, when diſturbed, extremely querulous and fretful. She drank only milk and water, and took no other food, nor any medicines. The above ſymptoms continued, without much variation, for four days; and ſhe died on the ninth day of the diſeaſe.

Since the commencement of warm weather, in the month of June, both the Meaſles and Scarlatina have appeared in their mildeſt forms. In two caſes of Meaſles, the eruption was not attended with the leaſt catarrhal complaint, nor with any febrile ſymptom, excepting a ſlight fur on the tongue.

The ſpecies of Sore-throat, termed Angina herpetica, has not been noticed by medical writers. It is preceded by violent ſhiverings, head-ache, pain of the ſtomach, naufea, aching pains in the limbs, a quick pulſe, flufhing of the cheeks, reſtleſſneſs, and great heat of the ſkin during the night. A day or two after the commencement of theſe ſymptoms, there is felt a diſagreeable roughneſs in the throat, with a difficulty and pain in ſwallowing. On the third day, little watery veſicles ariſe on the uvula, tonſils, &c. and are attended with a ſenſation of forenefs or pricking. On the fourth and fifth day, cluſters of herpetic

herpetic puſtules appear about the mouth, and ſometimes on the red part of the lip. On the ſixth and ſeventh day, the fluid in the puſtules turns yellowiſh, the internal veſicles break, and the fever ſubſides. On the eighth and ninth, the ſlight ulcerations in the throat are healed; and the circular blotches about the lips are covered with ſlight ſcabs, which ſoon fall off; and the patient experiences no farther uneaſineſs.

The deaths in the Bills of Mortality, from the 23d of May to the 20th of June, are ſtated as follows:

Aſthma and Conſumption	344	Hooping-cough	15
Apoplexy and ſuddenly	15	Jaundice	2
Aged	92	Inflammation and Abſcefs	20
Abortive and Stillborn	51	Lunatic	3
Convulſions	253	Meaſles	22
Child-bed	13	Mortification	13
Cancer	4	Palſy	6
Dropſy	53	Pleuriſy	3
Fever	105	Small-pox	37
Gout	7	Sore-throat	1
Gravel	1	Teeth	15
		Thruſh	3
		Water in the head	7

Out of this number, three hundred and eighteen died under two years of age, twenty-

ſix between eighty and ninety, and one perſon between ninety and a hundred.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of June to the 20th of July.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	13
Scarlatina Anginoſa	4
Small-pox	3
Swine-pox	3
Eryſipelas of the face	1
Aphthous Sore-throat	5
Inflamed Sore-throat	3
Hooping Cough	3
Catarrh	4
Pneumonic Inflammation	1
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	3
Malignant Fever	4
Summer Fever	2
Slow Fever	3
Puerperal Fever	2
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	7

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	29
Syncope and Hyſteria	5
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Epilepſy	2
Cephalæa	6
Apoplexy	3
Cough and Dyſpnœa	10
Pulmonary Conſumption	5
Hæmorrhagy from the lungs	4
Hæmorrhagy from the ſtomach,	1
Bilious vomiting	4
Dyſpepſia	10
Gaſtrodynia	8
Enterodynia	3
Diarrhœa	9
Fluor albus	4
Menorrhagia	2
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	5
Dropſy	8
Chronic Rheumatiſm	9
Lumbago and Sciatica	5
Scrophula	6
Jaundice	1
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Worms	4
Hæmorrhoids	3

Hernia	1
Scald-head	4
Itch and Prurigo	6
Tooth-raſh	4
Boils	3
Scaly Tetter	2
Gutta Roſea	2
Noli me tangere	1
Erythema	2
Purpura	1
Chronic Nettle-raſh	2

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Tertian	1
Hemicranium	1
Hectica ſenilis	3

It is obſerved by Sydenham, that the Meaſles, when epidemical, uſually commence in January or February, and are rapidly diffuſed till the vernal equinox; that the morbillous conſtitution is then at its acme, and afterwards gradually declines till midſummer, becoming extinct in the month of July. Having, however, paid attention to the ſubject for many years paſt, I am thence enabled to ſay, there is no ſuch regularity in the commencement, progreſs, and decline of this diſeaſe.

diſeaſe. It has often been epidemical during the months of November and December, has nearly ceaſed in the ſpring ſeaſon, and has been again extenſively diffuſed after Midſummer.

Experience, likewiſe, affords ſufficient reaſon to controvert the truth of a poſition made by ſeveral medical authors, that epidemical contagious diſeaſes ſucceed each other in a certain order or ſeries; ſome of them predominating for a ſeaſon to the excluſion of the reſt. On the contrary, it is in general found, that the Small-Pox, Meaſles, Scarlet Fever, and Hooping Cough, become epidemical about the ſame time, and continue their progreſs, though not always in equal degrees or proportions. This has been uniformly the caſe in London, according to my own obſervations, for many ſucceſſive years.

The part of the year which, in this climate, moſt favours the propagation of contagious diſeaſes, is the autumnal ſeaſon and the beginning of winter; or the time between the end of Auguſt and the middle of December. The progreſs of malignant Fevers, of the Small-Pox, and Scarlatina anginoſa, is checked by the firſt froſt in December; but the Meaſles and Hooping Cough ſometimes

continue their courſe through the winter, without much abatement.

In two caſes of Meaſles, within the preſent month, a circumſtance occurred which merits attention. The previous fever and the catarrhal ſymptoms having been moderate, or rather ſlight, the eruption took place in the uſual form on the fourth day, and was diſtributed over the face, breaſt, and arms. It diſappeared two or three days afterward, and no complaint ſeemed to remain. In the ſucceeding night, however, a violent fever commenced, and in the morning a freſh eruption appeared, which was diffuſed nearly over the whole body. This ſecond ſtage of the diſorder was attended throughout with much fever, with inflammation of the eyes, a conſtant troubleſome cough, and a diarrhœa. The eruption went off, along with the fever, in four days: the cough and diarrhœa continued ſome time longer. Thus the whole duration of the diſeaſe was twelve days, eight of which were occupied by the two eruptions. Both the above patients were confined, after the firſt appearance of the raſh, to their bedchambers, in which an uniform temperature was preſerved; ſo that the renewal of the diſeaſe could not be cauſed by any check given

given to it in the firſt ſtage from expoſure to cold. A double fever and two ſucceſſive eruptions I never before remarked in the Meaſles, nor is it mentioned by practical writers. Theſe circumſtances are, however, not unuſual in the Small-pox: the only difference is, that, in the Small-pox, there is an interval of eight days between the two eruptions. The firſt eruption always conſiſts of large diſtinct pocks, without fever; in the ſecond, the puſtules are ſmall and coherent, or ſometimes confluent.

In one caſe of the malignant Fever, which was attended with coma, a weak and very quick pulſe, and a black incruſtation of the tongue and teeth, there appeared on the extremities large ſpots of a dark red colour, intermixed with petechiæ; and, about the fourth day, conſiderable veſicles, filled with a blackiſh lymph. On the fifth day, the tongue was dry and rigid; the jaw became likewiſe conſtricted and immovable, ſo that no liquid could be paſſed into the mouth. In this dreadful ſituation, the patient, a delicate young lady, ſeventeen years of age, expired on the ſixth day of the diſeaſe.

The following list of deaths is given in the Bills of Mortality for the last four weeks.

Apoplexy and ſud-		Jaundice	4
denly	9	Inflammation and Ab-	
Aſthma and Conſump-		ſceſs	23
tion	340	Jaw locked	1
Aged	74	Lunatic	6
Abortive and Still-		Meaſles	25
born	32	Mortification	15
Brain-Fever	2	Palſy	3
Convulſions	220	Small-pox	21
Croup	2	Sore-throat	1
Child-bed	17	St. Anthony's Fire .	1
Cancer	4	Teeth	24
Dropſy	61	Thruſh	4
Fever	88	Worms	1
Gout	5	Water in the head . .	3
Hooping Cough . . .	20		

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of July to the 20th of Auguſt.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

ACUTE Rheumatiſm . .	6
Gout	3
Catarrh	3
Inflammatory Sore-throat . . .	1

Aphthous

Aphthous Sore-throat	4
Mortification of the bowels	1
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	1
Hæmorrhagy from the lungs	6
Contagious, malignant Fever	2
Meaſles	5
Scarlatina	2
Miliaria æſtiva	1
Small-pox	2
Chicken-pox	3
Summer Fever	4
Slow Fever	1
Puerperal Fever	1
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	9

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	34
Cough and Dyſpnœa	18
Pulmonary Conſumption	11
Chronic Rheumatiſm	10
Sciatica	4
Paralyſis	1
Hyſteria	3
Cephalæa	4
Chloroſis	2
Dyſpepſia	10
Gaſtrodynia	9
Enterodynia	4

Bilious

Bilious Vomiting and Diarrhœa,	16
Menorrhagia	3
Fluor albus	7
Scirrhus uteri	1
Scirrhous liver	1
Jaundice	2
Prolapſus ani	2
Hernia	1
Prolapſus uteri	1
Hæmorrhoids	3
Dyſury and Gravel	3
Dropſy	7
Œdema puerperale	1
Scrophula	3
Tabes meſenterica	4
Worms	2
Cancer	1
Impetigo	1
Lupus	1
Inflamed Puſtules	3
Prurigo	2
Itch	3
Scald-head	2
Scaly Tetter	2
Purpura	1

The frequent and ſudden changes of the weather, during the laſt four weeks, have produced

duced more caſes of acute and chronic Rheumatiſm, of Catarrh, and other pulmonic diſeaſes, than is uſual for the preſent ſeaſon. Violent diſorders of the ſtomach and bowels, attended with bilious diſcharges, have alſo been very prevalent. The proper Cholera, as deſcribed by Sydenham, in general ſucceeds theſe complaints, not appearing till the end of Auguſt, or beginning of September. Contagious Fevers of all kinds ſeem to have abated conſiderably within the preſent month; at leaſt, on the weſtern ſide of the town.

The numerous caſes of aphthous Sore-throat, put down in the liſt of diſeaſes, for ſeveral months paſt, demand ſome attention. A ſlight account of this complaint was given formerly*: but a more enlarged hiſtory of it may not be amiſs, as it has a better right to be termed idiopathic than many other diſeaſes, to which particular names have been aſſigned.

The aphthous Sore-throat uſually begins with ſlight feveriſh ſymptoms, as head-ache, irregular ſhiverings, and pain in the limbs. Two or three days afterwards, a roughneſs

* See page 11.

and

and ſwelling are felt in the throat: upon inſpection, the tongue appears of a dark-red colour, excepting that the middle part of it is covered with a thin whitiſh fur, above which the points of the elongated papillæ are every where viſible. On the tops of theſe, ſmall ulcerations are formed along the upper ſurface and ſides of the tongue; alſo on the uvula and tonſils, which are tumid, and much inflamed. In children, the ulcerations extend to the lips, palate, inſide of the cheeks, and to the gums. The ſmall ſpecks of ulceration uſually remain diſtinct, and heal in a few days; but are, from time to time, ſucceeded by others in the ſame, or in different ſituations. In ſome caſes, however, theſe ſpecks become confluent, and form, upon the palate and gums, within the fauces and cheeks, extenſive patches of ulceration, covered with thick ſloughs of a white or yellowiſh colour. There is ſeldom any diſorder of the conſtitution attending this ſpecies of Sore-throat, beyond the firſt four or five days of its courſe; but the complaint in the mouth and fauces does not terminate in leſs than three weeks: it ſometimes continues five or ſix weeks, or even longer, producing, however, no farther trouble than a ſlight ſenſation of roughneſs

in

in the throat, with ſome difficulty in ſwallowing.

Men are often affected with the aphthous Sore-throat; but women and children are much more liable to it. Where there are many children in the ſame family, all of them have this diſorder about the ſame time: in many inſtances I have obſerved a return of it in autumn, for ſeveral ſucceſſive years.

The cauſes of this complaint ſeem to be, expoſure to cold air, or drinking cold liquors, after being much heated by exerciſe; intemperance, or an unwholeſome diet; and acrid effluvia taken into the lungs by reſpiration. Thoſe who attend perſons affected with Fevers, confluent Small-pox, or the Scarlatina anginoſa, are very frequently affected with aphthous ulcerations in the mouth and throat, as above deſcribed. The aphthous Sore-throat is likewiſe connected, on many occaſions, with a miliary eruption over the ſurface of the body, which takes place in ſummer, along with a ſlight fever. See page 120.

This diſeaſe requires a light ſoft diet, and mild drinks, as whey, barley-water, toaſt and water, &c. with moderate exerciſe. The mineral acids, bark, and other medicines uſually pre-

preſcribed for it, have but little effect in ſhortening its duration.

Aphthous ulcerations occur ſymptomatically in a variety of diſeaſes, both acute and chronic. They ſeldom fail to appear whenever the conſtitution has been weakened by old age, or long confinement from Dyſpeptic and Gouty complaints, Diarrhœa, Chloroſis, and Phthiſis pulmonalis, or other forms of Hectic in which the lungs are not particularly affected. Aphthæ alſo ſucceed the Meaſles, Scarlatina, Eryſipelas, and Small-pox: in autumn, when the air is cold and moiſt, they occur in every caſe of Malignant Fever, and almoſt univerſally affect women ſoon after child-bearing.

Ketelaer, who profeſſes to give an enlarged account of the endemic Aphthæ in Zealand, has only deſcribed the ſymptomatic kind of them, which he thinks forms a criſis of Fevers. He refers their origin to ſome peculiarities of the diet, air, ſoil, and temperature of his country, ſuppoſing the complaint to be wholly unknown to other nations. Aphthous ulcerations, however, occur in this place, in a much greater variety of circumſtances than has been mentioned by him: and prevail ſo extenſively at certain ſeaſons, that

that they are ſuperadded to every acute diſeaſe. The ſame remark was often made by Dr. Huxham, during his long practice at Plymouth.* Aphthæ, thus occurring ſymptomatically, never produce any criſis or alleviation of the original fever, as Ketelaer, and moſt of the phyſicians on the continent, have taught us to expect, but ſeem rather to aggravate the diſeaſe, and prolong its duration.

The London Bills of Mortality ſtate the following number of deaths in different diſeaſes, between the 18th of July and the 15th of Auguſt:

Aſthma and Conſumption	291	Cancer	4
Aged	64	Childbed	14
Apoplexy, and ſuddenly	16	Convulſions	270
Bleeding	2	Dropſy	50
		Fever	106
		Gout	8

* Julio, 1739. Diu duravit Angina quædam aphthoſa quæ omnibus fere acutis morbis accedit, præcipue puſtuloſis; jamque etiam peripneumonicos vexat. Moleſtum ſanè, et ſæpe periculoſum eſt ſymptoma, ubi in febribus membrana faucium inflammatur et puſtulis obſidetur. *De Aere et Morb. Epidem. lib.* ii. *p.* 29.

Novembri, 1752, leves Anginæ innumeræ, etiam inter adultos; et ferè ſemper cum puſtulis. — Vix ſanè ulla Febricula occurrit, cujuſvis generis ſit, niſi puſtulis aut aphthis conſequentibus. *Compare Morton de Febrib. p.* 74, &c.

Head-

Head-ache	1	Palsy	7
Hooping Cough	11	Rupture	2
Head Mould-Shot	1	Small-pox	35
Jaundice	4	Abortive and Still-born	48
Inflammation and Abscess	32	Stone and Gravel	2
Lethargy	1	Teething	16
Measles	15	Water in the head	2
Mortification	20		

Of the above number, 345 died under two years of age; 55 between seventy and eighty; 21 between eighty and ninety; and three between ninety and a hundred.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of August to the 20th of Sept.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

SYNOCHUS, or Summer Fever	13
Cholera	6
Chicken-pox and Swine-pox	5
Small-pox	2

Scarlatina

Scarlatina anginoſa	3
Miliaria	2
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Eryſipelas	3
Hooping Cough	2
Peripneumony	2
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Hæmoptoë	4
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	2
Mortification of the bowels	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	2
Contagious, malignant Fever	8
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5
Mammary Abſcefs	2
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	12

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	30
Dropſy	6
Chronic Rheumatiſm	10
Sciatica	1
Cough and Dyſpnœa	20
Cough ſucceeding the Meaſles	5
Pleuritic Stitches	3
Pulmonary Conſumption	8
Cephalæa	9
Vertigo	3
Apoplexy	2

Hyſteria

Hyſteria	3
Chloroſis	3
Gaſtrodynia	14
Enterodynia	13
Bilious Vomiting and Diarrhœa,	14
Diarrhœa in Infants	7
Devonſhire Colic	1
Dyſpepſia	10
Pyroſis	1
Diabetes	1
Hæmorrhoids	2
Menorrhagia	5
Fluor albus	3
Dyſury and Gravel	3
Scirrhous kidney	1
Scirrhous liver	2
Jaundice	2
Tabes meſenterica	4
Scrophula	6
Lichen	2
Prurigo	3
Phthiriaſis	1
Scaly Tetter	3
Icthyoſis	1
Chronic Nettle-raſh	2
Roſeola	1
Shingles	1
Ringworm	1

Impetigo	2
Scabies	3
Sycoſis	1
Porrigo	2

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quotidian	1
Tertian	2
Quartan	1
Hectica	5

The above liſt contains a greater number and variety of complaints than has appeared in any foregoing account. At the preſent period of the year, indeed, a ſeaſon ſo damp and unfavourable ſeldom occurs, there having been ſcarcely one day without rain for ſeveral weeks paſt. Caſes of the Summer-fever and Cholera have been numerous and violent, but in no inſtance fatal, within my own knowledge. Many children, between one and two years of age, and even infants at the breaſt, were affected with the Summer Fever, in the months of July and Auguſt. The general ſymptoms of this fever are ſtated page 25. Infants had a yellowiſh brown fur on the tongue, an extremely quick pulſe,

pulſe, with fluſhing of the cheeks, and a great heat of the ſkin: they took little nouriſhment; and were, during the greateſt part of the day, in a dozing, or comatoſe ſtate. In the ſecond or third week, there appeared a remiſſion of the febrile ſymptoms for ſome hours in the day; but this was conſtantly ſucceeded by an exacerbation towards evening, and a conſiderable degree of fever through the night. The whole duration of the complaint was ſeldom leſs than a month.

The Varicella, or Chicken-pox, has been very prevalent during the ſummer. The eruption was generally preceded by a ſtrong fever; and, in three caſes, by a vivid univerſal raſh, ſimilar to that which often attends the eruption of the Small-pox. The variety of this diſeaſe, termed here the Swine-pox, is characterized by an eruption of veſicles, having nearly the ſize of peas, and filled with a tranſparent lymph. In both ſpecies, the periods and concomitant ſymptoms are the ſame; and both are produced by the ſame contagion.

The acute Miliaria, which occurs frequently in the ſummer months, has not, I believe, attracted the notice of any of our practical writers. Its primary ſymptoms are

ſlight

ſlight ſhiverings, with pains in the head and back: the pulſe is ſmall and quick; the tongue is covered with a white fur, but appears of a dark red colour at the edges; and its papillæ are conſiderably elongated. As the diſeaſe advances, the patients complain of a great heat and prickling in the ſkin, with ſickneſs at the ſtomach; they are affected with an unuſual languor and faintneſs, and have often profuſe perſpirations during the night. On the third, fourth, fifth, or ſixth day of the diſorder, a raſh appears, ſometimes in ſcattered patches, ſometimes diffuſed over the whole body. It continues ſeveral days in particular ſituations, as the neck, breaſt, ſtomach, and back; on other parts, it appears and diſappears many times, without any certain order. The puſtules, which, from their reſemblance to millet-ſeeds, have ſuggeſted the name of Miliaria for this complaint, are diſtributed over the face and all the body; but are always moſt numerous on the breaſt and back, or where the raſh is moſt vivid. They are round and very minute, and contain a white or pearl-coloured lymph. Their duration is but ſhort: freſh ones, however, appear daily, ſo long as the raſh and febrile ſymptoms conti-

nue. At the ſame time, ſmall tranſparent veſicles are formed on the tongue, and often in the fauces: theſe uſually terminate in aphthous ulcerations. (See page 113.) Neither the raſh nor the puſtular eruption afford any criſis or alleviation of the febrile complaint; but all of them are brought to a concluſion nearly at the ſame time; which is, in ſome caſes, on the tenth day; in others, on the twelfth, fourteenth, or twentieth day of the diſeaſe.

Children, particularly boys, who uſe violent exerciſe in hot weather, and ſoon after expoſe themſelves to a current of air, or drink cold water, are moſt liable to be affected with this ſpecies of Miliaria: in adults it occurs very rarely.

This complaint may be much mitigated, and ſhortened in its duration, by a gentle emetic, or laxatives, adminiſtered at the beginning of it; and by afterwards taking freely of the diluted vitriolic acid, a cool regimen being at the ſame time obſerved.

The account of deaths in different diſeaſes, between the 15th of Auguſt and the 19th of September, given by the Bills of Mortality, is as follows:

Aſthma and Conſumption	360	Apoplexy and ſuddenly	9

Aged

Aged	55	Inflammation and Abſceſs	37
Abortive and Still-born	62	Looſeneſs and Gripes,	3
Convulſions	390	Lunatic	6
Childbed	9	Meaſles	26
Cancer	6	Mortification	25
Croup	4	Palſy	12
Dropſy	63	Pleuriſy	1
Fever	119	Rupture	2
Gout	8	Small-pox	28
Stone and Gravel	5	Sore-throat	2
Hæmorrhagy	1	Teeth	30
Hooping Cough	28	Thruſh	3
Jaundice	4	Water in the head	6

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of September to the 20th of October.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MALIGNANT Fever	15
Meaſles	5
Hooping Cough	3
Small-pox	2
Catarrh	13

Peritoneal Inflammation	3
Inflammation of the bowels	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	3
Gout	2
Slow Fever	2
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	9

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	21
Hyſteria	2
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Chronic Rheumatiſm	6
Sciatica	1
Dropſy	4
Œdema puerperale	1
Cough and Dyſpnœa	16
Pulmonary Conſumption	10
Spitting of blood	2
Hæmorrhagy from the noſe	1
Head-ache and Vertigo	6
Hydrocephalus	2
Apoplexy	1
Palſy	2
Dyſpepſia	15
Gaſtrodynia	12
Enterodynia	8
Diarrhœa	17

Cholera

Cholera	3
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	1
Hæmorrhoids	3
Chloroſis	8
Menorrhagia	2
Dyſury and Gravel	2
Scirrhus of the kidney	1
Scirrhus of the liver, and Jaundice	3
Scirrhus of the uterus	2
Cancer	2
Gangrenous Ulcer	1
Scrophula	5
Rickets	2
Tabes meſenterica	3
Prolapſus ani	1
Red Gum and Tooth-raſh	5
Lichen	1
Itch and Prurigo	6
Scaly Tetter	2
Purpura	1
Erythema	1
Impetigo	4
Gutta roſea	1
Porrigo	1

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quotidian	1
Tertian	3

Hectica adoleſcentium 2
Hectica ſenilis 3

The moſt extenſive ſeries of complaints, in the months of September and October, has conſiſted of Inflammations of the bowels, Bilious vomitings, and diarrhœa, attended with violent pain, and in many caſes with hæmorrhagy. Theſe diſorders of the bowels require early attention and nice diſcrimination. Some caſes, if neglected at the beginning, or improperly managed, prove fatal within forty-eight hours. (See the Report for September, 1799.)

The Meaſles, Scarlatina, Small-pox, and Hooping Cough, occur in various places, but have not been very widely diffuſed within the laſt two months.

It was obſerved in the laſt report, that caſes of the Synochus, or Summer Fever, had been more frequent than uſual in the months of Auguſt and September. They were ſucceeded, at the latter end of September, by a proportionate number of caſes of the Contagious, malignant Fever, which, in ſome inſtances, terminated fatally. A little girl, ſeven years of age, recovered from an apparently hopeleſs ſtate of it. She, as well

as

as her whole family, was greatly alarmed on the ſeventh or eighth night of the Fever by the repeated howlings of a ſtrange dog* under her window. All the ſymptoms were immediately aggravated: ſhe was affected with a diarrhœa, her pulſe became very quick, her tongue was furred, and ſhe was at times delirious. In the third week, her tongue became dry and brown, her eyes ſunk and heavy; the excretions paſſed involuntarily; and ſhe fell into a ſtate of ſtupor, or rather of total inſenſibility. There was no diſtinct criſis of the Fever, but the little patient regained her faculties and ſtrength very gradually. She took ſcarcely any nouriſhment for a fortnight: the remedies, apparently moſt efficacious, were bliſters to the head and other parts, ſinapiſms applied to the feet,

* This circumſtance is conſidered by the ſuperſtitious as a certain omen of death. However, in two inſtances of the kind, which occurred to me during the preſent year, the dogs have proved falſe prognoſticators, as both patients happily recovered. The reaſon why dogs occaſionally preſent themſelves, in the night, at a houſe where any one lies ſick, is, that, having loſt their maſters, or miſſed their way, they ſeek protection; and, in conſequence, repair where the lights and ſtir in the houſe give hopes that they may gain attention, which they endeavour to do by a moſt piteous howling.

and calomel given occaſionally in moderate doſes.

The Contagious, malignant Fever, it was formerly remarked, (page 42,) often ſupervenes to the Synochus, or Summer Fever; in which caſe, petechial ſpots, hæmorrhagy, a dry, brown, or black tongue, and a quick irregular pulſe, are united with violent pains of the head, and delirium, pains and tenſion of the ſtomach or bowels, ſometimes attended with diarrhœa, ſometimes with obſtinate coſtiveneſs. This congeries of ſymptoms is very often fatal.

In the Bills of Mortality, from the 19th of September to the 17th of October, the following number of deaths has been recorded:

Aged	70	Flux	1
Apoplexy and ſuddenly	17	Gout	10
Ague	1	Hooping Cough	25
Brain-Fever	2	Jaundice	7
Cancer	7	Inflammation and Abſcefs	44
Child-bed	11	Lunatic	4
Conſumption, Cough, and Aſthma	292	Meaſles	21
Convulſions	291	Mortification	12
Croup	2	Palſy	4
Dropſy	53	Rupture	2
Fever	122	Rheumatiſm	2
		Scurvy	1

Small-pox

Small-pox	19	Teeth	16
Sore-throat	1	Water in the head . .	5
Still-born and Abortive	40	Worms	1

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of October to the 20th of November.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	21
Acute Rheumatism . . .	4
Peripneumony	1
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Apoplexy	2
Contagious, malignant Fever .	5
Scarlatina anginosa	2
Angina maligna	1
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Hooping Cough	2
Slow Fever	2
Child-bed and Milk Fevers . .	4
Acute Diseases of Infants . . .	10

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	15
Dropſy	7
Chronic Rheumatiſm	5
Lumbago and Sciatica	3
Paralyſis	2
Cephalæa	3
Epilepſy	2
Hyſteria	5
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Convulſio	2
Cough and Dyſpnœa	31
Pulmonary Conſumption	6
Pleuritic Stitch	3
Dyſpepſia	8
Gaſtrodynia	9
Enterodynia	5
Diarrhœa	8
Conſtipatio	9
Hæmorrhoids	3
Menorrhagia	2
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	1
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	7
Fluor albus	2
Scirrhus of the uterus	1
Scirrhus of the ovaria	1
Scirrhus of the liver	1

Jaundice	2
Tape-Worm	2
Aſcarides	3
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Tabes meſenterica	2
Struma	3
Dry Tetter	2
Scald-head	2
Purpura	1
Itch and Prurigo	5

PERIODICAL DISEASES.

Quartan	1
Hemicranium	1
Periodic Gaſtrodynia	2
Hectica adoleſcentium	4
Hectica ſenilis	3

On the approach of winter, the variety of acute diſeaſes is always greatly reduced; and rheumatic, catarrhal, or other pulmonic complaints become moſt prevalent. Malignant Fevers, and other contagious diſeaſes, have occurred in a much ſmaller proportion during the preſent, than in the two preceding months. The caſe of Angina maligna, along with the uſual ſymptoms of a malignant Fever, exhibited deep ulcerations of the ton-

ſils and adjoining parts, covered with aſh-coloured ſloughs, and ſurrounded by livid edges. Nevertheleſs, the fever ceaſed, and the ulcerations were healed in about eight days, by the uſe of a valuable bark, lately imported from the colony at Sierra Leone.

Among the liſts of Chronic Diſeaſes, a never-failing ſeries of complaints, moſtly produced by the intemperate uſe of ſpirituous liquors, has been compriſed under the titles of Dyſpepſia, Gaſtrodynia, Enterodynia, and Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy; to which may be added, ſeveral caſes of the Aſthenia, Paralyſis, Apoplexy, Gravel or Dyſury, Scirrhous liver, Jaundice, and Dropſy. Fevers, internal Inflammations, and many pulmonic diſeaſes, are rendered inveterate, or even fatal, by the ſame kind of intemperance. On comparing my own obſervations with the Bills of Mortality, I am convinced, that conſiderably more than one-eighth of all the deaths, which take place in perſons above twenty years old, happen prematurely through exceſs in drinking ſpirits. Theſe pernicious liquors are generally ſuppoſed to have an immediate and ſpecific effect on the liver; which viſcus has been found after death, in drinkers of ſpirits, hardened or altered as to its texture, diſcoloured,

diſcoloured, and diminiſhed. It appears, however, that the ſtomach and bowels ſuffer firſt from the uſe of ſpirits: and that their baneful influence is afterwards extended gradually to every part of the body, producing a variety of morbid phænomena.

1. The uſual ſymptoms of indigeſtion, attended with a diſreliſh of plain food; with frequent nauſea, and oppreſſive pains at the ſtomach; with an inexpreſſible ſenſation of ſinking, faintneſs, and horror; and with ſudden, convulſive diſcharges from the ſtomach into the mouth of a clear, acid, or ſweetiſh fluid.*

2. Racking pains, and violent contractions of the bowels, and of the abdominal muſcles. Theſe ſymptoms often return, periodically, about four o'clock in the morning, being attended with extreme depreſſion, or languor, a ſhortneſs of breath, and the moſt dreadful apprehenſions.

* This ſymptom is termed in Scotland the Water-braſh, and is an uſual effect of the deleterious ſpirit whiſkey, manufactured in that country, and diffuſed with a laviſh hand to perſons of both ſexes, at every period of life, as well among the middling claſſes as among the lower orders of the people.

3. In

3. In perſons of the ſanguine temperament, inflammations of the peritoneal membrane, long-continued, and producing intenſe pain, ſo that the ſlighteſt preſſure on the abdomen cannot be endured.

4. Swelling of the abdomen, emaciation of the limbs, with frequent cramps; and pains of the joints, finally ſettling in the ſoles of the feet. Theſe ſymptoms are ſucceeded by a degree of paralyſis; or, at leaſt, an incapacity of moving the limbs with any conſiderable effect.

5. Sallowneſs of the complexion, with dryneſs and ſcalineſs of the ſkin. As the powers of circulation are more and more impaired, the red veſſels diſappear from the white of the eye, the ſecretion of bile is imperfectly performed, and the ſmall hairs of the ſkin fall off, leaving the ſurface, eſpecially of the lower extremities, very ſmooth and ſhining.

6. Jaundice, aſcites, dropſical ſwellings of the legs, with general redneſs or inflammation of the ſkin, terminating in black ſpots and gangrenous ulcers.

7. A frequent recurrence of aphthous ulcerations in the mouth, throat, &c. and an offenſive

offenſive ſmell of the breath, ſimilar to that of rotten apples.

8. Hæmorrhagy. The intemperate uſe of ſpirits often occaſions profuſe diſcharges of blood from the noſtrils, ſtomach, bowels, kidneys, or bladder; and from the lungs, in perſons of a conſumptive habit. Women of the ſanguine temperament, who indulge to exceſs, often have the catamenia very profuſely, long after the uſual period: in ſome ſpirit-drinkers, I have known them continue beyond the ſixtieth year of age.

9. An entire change in the ſtate of mind: at firſt, low ſpirits, ſtrange ſenſations, and groundleſs fears, alternate with unſeaſonable, and often boiſterous mirth: a degree of ſtupidity, or confuſion of ideas, ſucceeds. The memory, and the faculties depending on it, being impaired, there takes place an indifference towards uſual occupations, and accuſtomed ſociety or amuſements: no intereſt is taken in the concerns of others: no love, no ſympathy remain. Even natural affection to neareſt relatives is gradually extinguiſhed; and the moral ſenſe ſeems obliterated. The wretched victims of a fatal poiſon fall, at length, into a ſtate of fatuity, and die with the powers both of body and mind wholly exhauſted. Some, after repeated

peated fits of derangement, expire in a ſudden and violent phrenzy. Some are hurried out of the world by apoplexies: others periſh by the ſlower proceſs of jaundice, dropſy, aphthous ulcerations of the alimentary canal, and gangrenous ulcers of the extremities.

The limits of the preſent work will not admit of a more extended view of the dreadful effects produced by drinking ſpirits; but I can, with pleaſure, refer to two publications* on the ſubject, by experienced phyſicians, whoſe ſtatements, if attended to, could not fail to deter the readers from a practice ſo injurious to individuals, and to ſociety at large.

The deaths recorded in the Bills of Mortality for the laſt four weeks are as follows:

Aged	79	Conſumption, Aſthma, &c.	318
Apoplexy, and ſuddenly	14	Convulſions	274
Bleeding	2	Croup	2
Cancer	7	Dropſy	61
Child-bed	15	Fever	96

* Dr. Anthony Fothergill's Eſſay on the Abuſe of Spirituous Liquors; Dr. Lettſom, on Hard Drinking; ſee alſo Memoirs of the Medical Society, vol. i. p. 152. I cannot here paſs over the elegant author of "Scotland's Scaith," whoſe patriotiſm deſerves the warmeſt thanks of his countrymen.

Fiſtula

Fiſtula	2	Bally	6
Gout	6	Pleuriſy	4
Gravel	2	Rupture	1
Gripes	1	Small-pox	22
Hooping Cough	15	Still-born and Abortive	44
Jaundice	9	Stone	1
Inflammation and Ulcers	31	Teething	34
Livergrown	1	Thruſh	3
Lunatic	10	Water in the head	3
Meaſles	17	Worms	8
Mortification	13		

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Nov. to the 20th of Dec.

List of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	12
Peripneumony	1
Enteritis	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	2
Inflamed and ulcerated Sore-throat	5
Scarlatina anginoſa	11

Meaſles

Meaſles	8
Hooping Cough	2
Small-pox	2
Chicken-pox	9
Malignant Fever	3
Slow Fever	3
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	8

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	11
Chronic Rheumatiſm	8
Lumbago	4
Dropſy	5
Paralyſis	2
Cephalæa	4
Epilepſy	2
St. Vitus's Dance	1
Syncope	3
Cough and Dyſpnœa	36
Phthiſis pulmonalis	9
Spitting of blood	4
Pleuritic Stitches	3
Dyſpepſia	12
Pyroſis	1
Hæmatemeſis	1
Gaſtrodynia	9
Enterodynia	4

Diarrhœa

Diarrhœa	6
Hæmorrhoids	2
Worms	3
Tabes meſenterica	3
Scirrhus	4
Menorrhagia	1
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	7
Scrophula	5
Porrigo	2
Acne	2
Phthiriaſis	1
Itch	3
Pompholyx	1
Lichen	2
Nettle-raſh	1
Gangrenous Ulcer	1

Malignant Fevers were ſucceeded, in December, by an extenſive diffuſion of the meaſles, Scarlatina, Chicken-pox, and other contagious complaints, the progreſs of which has been favoured by an unuſually warm and humid ſtate of the air. The Meaſles have prevailed moſtly in Weſtminſter, the Scarlet fever in the City, and Borough of Southwark.

A young man, ſuddenly affected with Inflammation of the bowels, complained at firſt of

of great heat, intenſe thirſt, general uneaſineſs, &c. and felt an acute pain on preſſing the abdomen. In a few hours, he was affected with convulſive motions in the limbs, and unuſual confuſion of thought. From this ſtate, however, he ſoon recovered after being bled very largely.

In five caſes of the Chicken-pox, which occurred in one family, the eruption was attended with ſome ſwelling of the tonſils, and an appearance of ulcerated ſpecks or puſtules upon them, a circumſtance I never before noticed. An attending ſervant and the mother of the children had a ſimilar enlargement of the tonſils, and ſlight ulcerations, but without the veſicular eruption on the ſkin.

The proportion of Small-pox has been, throughout the preſent year, remarkably ſmall: the deaths from this diſeaſe, as reported by the Bills of Mortality, were only 522; whereas the number, laſt year, was 3548. In the Small-pox Hoſpital, only ſeven perſons died of the natural Small-pox out of the whole number admitted ſince Chriſtmas, 1796. At the Hoſpital for Inoculation, the practice has been very ſucceſsful. Five hundred and fourteen perſons were inoculated, and went through the diſeaſe, in the

: hoſpital: 786 were inoculated, not being mitted into the houſe, but left, with proper ections, to the care of their parents or atives. Of the whole number (1300) ly two died in the courſe of the year.

CCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of December, 1797, to the end of March, 1798.

ſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	53
Acute Rheumatiſm	16
Inflammatory Sore-throat	9
Aphthous Sore-throat	6
Angina parotidæa	1
Ophthalmia	14
Peripneumony	4
Pleuriſy	1
Peritoneal Inflammation	3
Inflammation of the bowels	1
Nephritis	1

Gout

Gout 4
Apoplexy 4
Hæmoptoë 7
Hæmatemeſis 1
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy 2
Abortion 3
Scarlet Fever 10
Meaſles 6
Small-pox 3
Chicken-pox 3
Hooping Cough 11
Contagious, malignant Fever . 7
Dyſentery 1
Eryſipelas 1
Ephemera 1
Slow Fever 7
Child-bed and Milk Fevers . . 5
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants . . . 48

Quotidian 1
Tertian 2
Hectica infantilis 4
Hectica puerilis 1
Hectica adoleſcentium 7
Hectica ſenilis 8

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa 114
Pulmonary Conſumption . . . 31

Spitting

Spitting of blood	6
Pleurodyne	7
Chronic Rheumatiſm	32
Lumbago and Sciatica	10
Dropſy	19
Aſthenia	29
Head-ache and Vertigo	18
Hemicranium	3
Syncope	2
Hyſteria	12
Epilepſy	5
Chorea	1
Palſy	7
Hydrocephalus	1
Hypochondriaſis and Melancholia	5
Palpitatio	3
Angina pectoris	1
Dyſpepſia	31
Pain of the ſtomach and bowels,	25
Diarrhœa	23
Colic	2
Colica Pictonum	3
Conſtipatio	4
Hernia	2
Piles	4
Gravel and Dyſury	6
Enureſis	2

Hæmaturia

Hæmaturia	3
Menorrhagia	7
Chlorosis and Amenorrhœa	14
Fluor albus	6
Scirrhus and Cancer uteri	4
Scirrhus of the liver	4
Jaundice	6
Prolapsus	1
White Swelling	1
Scrophula	10
Rickets	5
Tabes mesenterica	8
Worms	9
Dentition	6
Thrush	4
Strophulus	4
Lichen	3
Lepra and Scaly Tetter	7
Dandriff	3
Ichthyosis	1
Nettle-rash	1
Purpura	2
Erythema	1
Herpes	1
Intertrigo	2
Impetigo	3
Ecthyma	1
Itch and Prurigo	13

Porrigo	9
Acne	4
Lupus	6
Furunculus	2

Of the above numbers, there died of Peripneumony 1; of Hæmoptoë 3; Scarlet Fever 1; Putrid Fever 1; Hooping Cough 3; Slow Fever 2; Puerperal Fever 1; Fevers in infancy 5; Hectica ſenilis 5; old Coughs, and Conſumption, 14; Dropſy 5; Organic Diſeaſe of the heart 1; Cancer uteri 1; Scirrhus of the liver, without dropſy, 1; Tabes meſenterica 3; Conſtipation, and Hernia, 2; Diabetes 1.

The air being moiſt and warm, at the beginning of the year 1798, the ſeries of diſeaſes, mentioned in the laſt report, was continued to the end of February. From that time the wind was for ſome days in the eaſt and north-eaſt, but, on the 17th, ſuddenly changed to the weſt and ſouth-weſt, and was very variable afterwards till the 18th of March, when it again ſettled in the north-eaſt quarter. In February, the Meaſles and Scarlatina yielded to the Hooping Cough, and Catarrhal Fevers, which predominated till the latter end of March. The extraordinary number of the Acute

Diſeaſes of Infants muſt be referred principally to an epidemic Catarrh, affecting them in a greater proportion than adults. This diſeaſe began the ſecond week in February, and continued about a month. It was not, I think, contagious; but it ſeemed more inflammatory, and was attended with a more ſevere cough, with a much greater degree of fever, of heat, and inquietude, than occurred in a ſimilar epidemic, January, 1796, mentioned in page 3. Hence the catarrh of 1798 required a very different mode of practice from that employed in the former one, being not ſoon removed, unleſs by the repeated application of leeches and bliſters to the cheſt, by purgatives, and a cooling regimen. The only particular circumſtance I noticed in adults affected with this complaint was an excruciating pain of the forehead, moſtly over the left eye, which returned periodically for ſeveral ſucceſſive days, at a ſtated hour after noon, and continued through the greater part of the night.

The Meaſles were, in general, mild and favourable. One of the caſes of Scarlatina anginoſa proved fatal: the patient was a ſtout young woman, who, during her attendance on two children affected with the diſeaſe, took

took the infection herſelf, January 20, and died the ſecond night after the commencement of the ſore-throat and ſcarlet efflorescence. Inſtances of ſudden death, at an early period of this virulent diſtemper, ſometimes within ſix hours after its firſt attack, I have from time to time obſerved both in children and adults.

In February and March, Inflammation of the ball of the eye* was a frequent and troubleſome complaint; I notice it, however, more on account of its unuſually extenſive diffuſion than for any thing particular in its appearance.

Many perſons who had Catarrhal Coughs in March were farther affected with ſpitting of blood, thick, viſcid expectoration, pains within the cheſt, hectic fever, and diarrhœa interchanging with night ſweats, but recovered, notwithſtanding, in the month of April. The difficulty of diſtinguiſhing with exactneſs the acceſſion of Phthiſis pulmonalis was formerly remarked (ſee pages 3 and 4). I hope to be excuſed in repeating this obſervation, as it enforces one practical point of

* Ophthalmia catarrhalis; Sauvages, Noſolog. Med. Ophthalmia epidemica; Hoffman, tom. ii. ſect. 2. cap. 11.

ſome conſequence, that in Coughs ſucceeding to Catarrhal Fevers we ſhould not be too haſty in pronouncing a caſe to be decidedly phthiſical; nor, whenever the lungs are inflamed, diſcontinue, ſo long as a poſſibility of benefit remains, the proper regimen and the means of reſolution.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 31ſt of March to the End of June.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	23
Acute Rheumatiſm	20
Ophthalmia	5
Otalgia	1
Inflammatory Sore-throat	8
Angina herpetica	2
Angina parotidæa	1
Peripneumony	6
Inflammation of the bowels	3
Peritoneal Inflammation	1

Nephritis

Nephritis	1
Phlegmone teſtis	1
Gout	4
Apoplexy	3
Epiſtaxis	1
Hæmoptoë	6
Hæmorrhagy from the ſtomach and bowels	5
Renal Hæmorrhagy	1
Abortus, and Menorrhagia	14
Eryſipelas	2
Meaſles	15
Scarlatina anginoſa	9
Small-pox	16
Chicken-pox	2
Hooping Cough	7
Contagious, malignant Fever	12
Summer Fever	6
Dyſentery	1
Slow Fever	11
Child-bed and Milk Fever	6
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	30

Quotidian	2
Tertian	1
Hectic	6
Hemicranium	4

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	63
Pulmonary Conſumption	26
Spitting of blood	6
Pleurodyne	7
Chronic Rheumatiſm	25
Lumbago and Sciatica	10
Dropſy	22
Aſthenia	44
Head-ache and Vertigo	15
Syncope	2
Hyſteria	11
Epilepſy	5
Hydrocephalus	1
Paralyſis	5
Hypochondriaſis and Melancholia	6
Palpitatio	4
Bilious Vomiting	4
Dyſpepſia	29
Pain of the ſtomach and bowels,	20
Diarrhœa	13
Conſtipatio	4
Hernia	2
Colic	2
Colica Pictonum	3
Hæmorrhoids	4

Gravel

Gravel, Stone, and Dyſury	8
Enureſis	1
Hæmaturia	1
Amenorrhœa and Chlorоſis	16
Fluor albus	11
Scirrhus uteri	2
Scirrhus hepatis	2
Scrophula	8
Rickets	3
Curvature of the ſpine	1
Pſoas Abſceſs	1
Tabes meſenterica	13
Worms	10
Dentition	3
Thruſh	3
Lichen	2
Lepra and Scaly Tetter	11
Dandriff	1
Nettle-raſh	1
Purpura	4
Erythema	1
Herpes	1
Impetigo	6
Ecthyma	3
Itch and Prurigo	15
Porrigo	7
Acne	4
Lupus	2

Died of Peripneumony 2; Apoplexy 1; Hæmoptoë 1; Hectic Cough after the Meaſles 1; Small-pox 2; Malignant Fever 2; Summer Fever 1; Slow Fever 2; Fevers in infancy 4; Hectica adoleſcentium 1; Hectica ſenilis 2; Pulmonary Conſumption 7; Dropſy 1; Scirrhus uteri 1; Tabes meſenterica 3.

The ſpring of 1798 was a genuine Engliſh ſpring with reſpect to its temperature, the variation of the thermometer being in May 34°, in April and June nearly 40°. The quantity of rain was moderate. The wind was very variable, but chiefly blew from the eaſt and north-eaſt points till Midſummer, after which it changed, as uſual, to the weſt and ſouth-weſt.

The foregoing liſt of diſeaſes, which contains the reſult of my public and private practice, will perhaps nearly exhibit the proportion of acute diſeaſes to each other throughout London; and aſcertain the majority of rheumatic, and other inflammatory complaints, during the laſt three months.

Two caſes of the Peripneumony required bleeding; the remaining four were of the kind formerly deſcribed, (ſee page 66,) and in two inſtances fatal. I think it not amiſs to quote in this place Dr. Fothergill's account of an

an analogous ſpecies of Peripneumony obſerved by him fifty years ago.* "The only "diſeaſe I have ſeen that has looked like an "epidemic was an inſidious ſpecies of Pe"ripneumony. The ſick complain firſt of "chillneſs, ſhivering, and general pain, fre"quently of the limbs, then of ſome part "about the thorax; but this laſt never acute; "not often with a cough, and ſometimes "without much difficulty of breathing. "They frequently complain of pain upon "ſneezing, coughing, or even ſwallowing, "on one ſide of the neck, juſt above the "place where the middle of the maſtoid "muſcle takes its riſe from the clavicle: "this is often acute, and where it is ſo, from "an inſtance or two I have ſeen, ſeems to "afford a bad prognoſtic. The patients can "lie eaſy in one poſture, which is commonly "upon the back, but not on either ſide. "They have, or affect to ſhew, great com"poſure and eaſe, which impoſes on thoſe "about them, till they are ſuddenly alarmed "with ſome unexpected alteration, which "carries the patient off in a ſhort time.

* On Weather and Diſeaſes, April, 1751. Gentleman's Magazine, vol. xxi.

" The blood is commonly ſizy; the urine " crude or turbid, without a fair ſediment; " the pulſe quick, ſmall, at length weak, " and with a remarkable jerk; the tongue " moiſt; and drinking is rather fatiguing than " pleaſant. Early bleeding, gentle antiphlo- " giſtic purges of ſal cathart. and manna in " the pectoral decoction; cupping on the " ſide, with bliſters, mild diaphoretics, and " pectorals intermixed, have, in ſome caſes, " been ſucceſsful."

Rheumatic Fevers were numerous, violent, and of long duration. Theſe, with other inflammatory complaints, took place in many individuals of the volunteer corps, who, recommencing their exerciſes with the ſpring, and being engaged very early in the morning, or often late in the evening, ſuffered much from a mode of exertion and expoſure to which they had not been for ſome time accuſtomed.

The Rheumatiſm but ſeldom occurs here under its genuine inflammatory form. It is attended, in many caſes, with every mark of extreme debility; with a weak and quick pulſe, never leſs than 120; with ſighing, fainting, or hyſterical ſymptoms; with ſpontaneous ſweating, and miliary eruptions. Such

Such a ſtate is hinted at by Dr. Muſgrave, under the article of Arthritis chlorotica; and was before mentioned, as being occaſionally connected with, or ſucceeded by the Hectica adoleſcentium (ſee page 19). On this ſtatement it muſt appear that blood-letting is generally inadmiſſible. Some practitioners, however, continue to let blood in moſt caſes of Acute Rheumatiſm, thinking themſelves juſtified in their mode of practice by the ſizy appearance of the blood. The ſame principle might lead them to empty the whole ſanguiferous ſyſtem; for, every time blood-letting is repeated, the blood becomes more and more denſe, or ſizy. I have farther obſerved, that, by bleeding repeatedly, the pains, ſwellings, and febrile ſymptoms, were not only aggravated at the time, but often protracted indefinitely; at leaſt I have ſeen them continue, under ſuch a mode of practice, upwards of two months. The ill ſucceſs of it probably firſt induced other practitioners to adopt an oppoſite plan; when it was found that Peruvian bark, and vitriolated iron*, or the

* Dr. Muſgrave, (page 38,) after recommending preparations of iron in the Chlorotic Arthritis, obſerves; "Martis "nullum

precipitate of it combined with myrrh, as recommended by Dr. Griffiths, afforded both ſpeedy and permanent relief. I cannot omit remarking that Dr. Fothergill, in the work above quoted, had inveſtigated the neceſſity of adminiſtering bark in this diſeaſe, at a time when blood-letting was employed by his co-temporaries even in putrid Fevers. After noticing an inſidious and dangerous ſpecies of Rheumatiſm, which occurred in November, 1752, he obſerves in his report for February, 1753: "Rheumatiſms were com-" mon, eſpecially among children from four " to eight or ten years old: theſe young " ſubjects generally were ſeized with a pain " about the neck, back of the head, or the " ſhoulders; from hence it often ſhifted to " the hands and feet, and knees, and plainly " diſcovered its nature by the ſwellings it " produced: the fever attending it had regular " exacerbations in the evening, followed by " moderate ſweats, and freedom from pain in

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" nullum aptius vehiculum, quam aquæ martiatæ, per urinam " exeuntes; nec uno tantum nomine, pallidis his arthriticis " conveniunt: coctionem integrant; ſanguinem exaltant; " æſtuque exundanti virus arthriticum, abluunt, abripi-" untque; tum arthritidi, tum Chloroſi ſimul adverſantes."

" the

" the morning; which interval continued " with a calm, quiet pulſe till four or five " in the afternoon, when the ſymptoms " again appeared. In ſome young ſubjects, " where evacuations were uſed too freely, " either by bleeding or purging, the diſorder " proved ſuddenly and unexpectedly fatal; " the pains of the head became violent, " either a convulſion, or hemiplegia, or both, " ſucceeded, and death ſoon followed. A " decoction of the bark, with rhubarb ſuf- " ficient to keep the belly open, given in " ſmall doſes, and often, (eſpecially in the " intervals,) commonly removed the diſorder " in a few days, with great certainty; whilſt " bleeding, purging, and diaphoretics, often " rendered the diſtemper tedious, and ſome- " times, as is obſerved above, fatal."

Having formerly noticed the impropriety of applying the ſame mode of practice to every caſe of a diſeaſe, or of preſcribing merely from its name, inſtead of conſidering the ſtate of the conſtitution affected with it, I cannot, perhaps, better conclude the preſent article than by referring to the general directions with regard to blood-letting, dictated, with equal ſimplicity and preciſion,

preciſion, by the elegant phyſician of the Auguſtan age.*

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 30th of June to the End of September.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

SUMMER Fever	18
Cholera	3
Dyſentery	8
Small-pox	7
Scarlatina	9
Meaſles	6
Hooping Cough	8
Contagious, malignant Fever	27
Chicken-pox	1
Eryſipelas	1
Catarrh	8
Acute Rheumatiſm	5

* A. C. Celſus, lib. ii. cap. 10, De ſanguinis detractione per venas.

Inflammatory

Inflammatory Sore-throat	5
Ulcerated Sore-throat	3
Aphthous Sore-throat	6
Angina parotidæa	1
Axillary Abſceſs	2
Pleuriſy	1
Peripneumony	2
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Inflammation of the bowels	2
Hepatitis	1
Nephritis	2
Apoplexy	1
Hæmoptoë	4
Hæmatemeſis	1
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	2
Menorrhagia and Abortus	3
Ephemera	5
Slow Fever	3
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	6
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	26
Tertian	2
Hectic	17
Hemicranium	1

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	37
Pulmonary Conſumption	17

Spitting

Spitting of blood	2
Pleurodyne	5
Chronic Rheumatiſm	16
Lumbago and Sciatica	5
Dropſy	21
Aſthenia	53
Head-ache and Vertigo	19
Syncope	1
Hyſteria	12
Epilepſy	5
Palſy	4
Hypochondriaſis and Melancholia	7
Hydrocephalus	1
Palpitatio	2
Bilious Vomiting	9
Dyſpepſia	39
Pain of the ſtomach and bowels,	25
Diarrhœa	39
Piles	1
Colic	3
Colica Pictonum	2
Conſtipatio	8
Gravel, Stone, and Dyſury	9
Enureſis	1
Hæmaturia	1
Menorrhœa and Fluor albus	18
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	13

Scirrhus

Scirrhus and Cancer uteri	3
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Prolapſus ani	2
Prolapſus uteri	1
White Swelling	1
Scrophula	8
Tabes meſenterica	7
Worms	5
Dentition	4
Contractura	1
Thruſh	4
Strophulus	2
Lichen	1
Lepra and Scaly Tetter	13
Dandriff	3
Purpura	3
Herpes	1
Intertrigo	2
Impetigo	1
Ecthyma	2
Itch and Prurigo	14
Porrigo	6
Acne	5
Lupus	1

Died of Meaſles 1; of the Scarlet Fever ; of the Small-pox 1; Malignant Fever ; Fevers in infancy 3; Hectic of old age

age 3; Pulmonary Conſumption 7; Dropſy 3; Hydrocephalus 1; Scrophulous Ulcers 1; Tabes meſenterica 3; Purpura hæmorrhagica 1.

From the end of June to October, the weather was moſtly warm, cloudy, and moiſt, with very variable winds in Auguſt and September. Such a ſeaſon after Midſummer, along with ſome intermixture of inflammatory complaints, always favours the extenſion of infectious Fevers, and heightens their malignity. This obſervation was fully exemplified during the month of September, in which, along with the Scarlatina, Meaſles, &c. there occurred a greater number of Contagious, malignant Fevers, both in the city and adjacent villages, than had been known for many years before. The fatality of the diſeaſe was very conſiderable; one of every five or ſix perſons affected with it having died: whereas, according to obſervations formerly made, the proportion of deaths from malignant Fevers was not more, during the moſt unfavourable ſeaſons, than one in ſeven; and, at favourable periods, but one in twenty caſes. Hæmorrhagy, aphthæ, diarrhœa, ſubſultus tendinum, floccilegium, violent delirium ending in deafneſs and ſtupor, hiccough,

hiccough, and involuntary excretions, were the uſual accompaniments of the Fever. There was, however, one inſtance of a recovery from this ſtate in a girl nineteen years old, who had frequent cold ſweats, with a weak, fluttering pulſe, and who remained more than eight days apparently torpid and inſenſible. A man, aged forty-eight, after having recovered from the Fever, relapſed on the following day, and paſſed a ſecond time through all its untoward ſymptoms. I attended him, on the whole, forty days. I recollect a ſimilar inſtance, October, 1786, in a younger man; who, after expoſure to cold, was affected with violent ſhiverings, ſucceeded by heat, reſtleſſneſs, pains of the head and limbs, a dry, brown tongue, diarrhœa, and almoſt conſtant delirium. On the thirteenth night, he had a warm, univerſal perſpiration: in the morning of the fourteenth, his tongue was clean and moiſt; he had a good appetite, was perfectly ſenſible, and free from fever. In the evening of the ſame day, his diſorder returned as at firſt. The delirium, which ſoon commenced, terminated in coma; the diarrhœa likewiſe returned, and his diſcharges were involuntary. He died on the ninth morning after this ſecond acceſſion of fever.

The

The caſes of Cholera and other diſorders of the bowels, though very numerous, preſented nothing new, or worthy of particular obſervation. Inflammations of the bowels, which occur at this ſeaſon, are ſometimes treated ſlightly, being miſtaken for Enterodynia, Colic, &c. and conſidered as the effect of indigeſtion, flatulence, or acrimonious bile. Since the conſequences of this overſight may be fatal, a certain diagnoſtic of Enteritis would be a deſirable object. The violent and alarming ſymptoms, produced by an Inflammation of the ileum, or of any part of the ſmaller inteſtines, enforce attention, and have been fully detailed by practical writers. Miſtakes chiefly ariſe reſpecting inflammation of the lower inteſtines, as of the colon about its connections with the rectum, or cæcum. It does not, as in the other caſe, occaſion by excruciating pain inſtant debility and depreſſion, with vomiting, cold ſweats, &c. There is at firſt a local but moderate pain, ſomewhat aggravated by preſſure, and attended with thirſt, and general uneaſineſs. This pain ſeems afterwards to diffuſe itſelf, producing ſtrong contractions of the bowels and abdominal muſcles, which recur from time to time, but leave conſidera-

ble

ble intervals of eaſe and tranquillity The diſorder, however, differs from the colic in this reſpect, that it is not attended with obſtinate coſtiveneſs; and that, after ſufficient evacuations, the pain is not mitigated. On the other hand, as the inteſtine is tender and probably contracted about the ſeat of the inflammation, a moſt ſevere pain is often excited by the operation of the mildeſt purgative. The pulſe may at the beginning be hard and contracted; but it ſoon becomes weak, ſmall, and perhaps irregular. There is a fur upon the tongue, ſomewhat thick, and of a whitiſh colour. The urine has a ſmooth, pink ſediment, which, as the diſorder advances, changes its colour, and reſembles a rough cretaceous powder. Vomiting is not a conſtant ſymptom in this form of Enteritis.

When improperly treated, the diſeaſe terminates by gangrene, or by extenſive adheſions of the folds of the inteſtines, and an effuſion of matter into the abdominal cavity; which often cauſes a large tenſe ſwelling externally, and proves in a ſhort time fatal. In an examination after death of the bodies of two perſons thus affected, when the peritoneal membrane was divided, there iſſued out with violence

violence a moſt fetid exhalation; and, after it, were diſcharged between two and three quarts of an opaque, thick matter, which had been lodged in the cavity of the abdomen. There was much inflammatory exudation on the ſurface of the bowels: only patches of inflammation, at that time, appeared on them, and on the edge of the liver. In one of the caſes, the ſpleen ſeemed almoſt converted into a putrid maſs.

If the ſmall inteſtines ſhould be inflamed, a prompt and deciſive mode of treatment is requiſite; otherwiſe the diſeaſe terminates in gangrene and death within twenty-four hours, and ſometimes in eight or ten hours. Inflammation of the lower inteſtines does not, as ſtated by ſyſtematic writers, terminate on the fourth day in ſuppuration or gangrene. I have known it continue, with repeated paroxyſms of violent pain, for ten days; yet the patient has recovered. Should we, therefore, be called to ſuch a caſe on the eighth day, it might ſtill be proper to conſider it as inflammatory; and, according to the ſtate of the patient's conſtitution, to employ bleeding, particularly cupping, with bliſters, fomentations, or the warm bath, and a ſtrict antephlogiſtic regimen. When opiates, warm purgatives,

purgatives, aromatics, and ſpirituous drinks, are incautiouſly adminiſtered at the beginning of the diſorder, it becomes inveterate, and ſoon terminates fatally. I have been minute in the above obſervations, becauſe ſome lives are loſt every autumn by not diſcriminating Inflammation from other complaints of the bowels, which take place in great numbers, and under various forms, at that ſeaſon of the year.

The fatal caſe of Purpura was at Deptford: the patient a labouring man about fifty years of age. His diſorder was of the hæmorrhagic kind. (See page 90.) It muſt be remarked as a ſingular circumſtance, that blood was not only diſcharged from the noſe, mouth, and fauces, but iſſued in large ſtreams from under the nails of his toes, from ſmall livid veſicles about the throat externally, alſo from ſimilar veſicles on the ſcrotum, thighs, and other parts of the body.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 30th of Sept. to the End of Dec.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever	28
Catarrh	44
Scarlatina	18
Small-pox	7
Hooping-cough	9
Chicken-pox	1
Gout	3
Acute Rheumatism	13
Ophthalmia	3
Inflammatory Sore-throat	9
Ulcerated Sore-throat	2
Aphthous Sore-throat	2
Peripneumony	7
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Inflammation of the bowels	4
Dysentery	3
Nephritis	1
Apoplexy	4

Hæmoptoë

Hæmoptoë	1
Hæmatemeſis	1
Menorrhagia and Abortus	3
Ephemera	1
Slow Fever	5
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	7
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	23
Pemphigus infantilis	1
Febris miliaris	1
Urticaria febrilis	1
Quotidian	1
Hectic	5
Hemicrania	3

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	96
Pulmonary Conſumption	22
Spitting of blood	2
Pleurodyne	4
Chronic Rheumatiſm	18
Lumbago and Sciatica	7
Dropſy	15
Aſthenia	25
Head-ache and Vertigo	11
Hyſteria	5
Epilepſy	3
Chorea	1
Palſy	6

Hypochondriaſis and Melancholia	6
Hydrocephalus	2
Palpitatio	6
Bilious vomiting	3
Dyſpepſia	50
Pain of the ſtomach and bowels,	24
Diarrhœa	33
Piles	5
Colic	5
Colica Pictonum	3
Hernia	2
Conſtipatio	2
Gravel, Stone, and Dyſury	5
Enureſis	3
Iſchuria	2
Hæmaturia	1
Menorrhœa and Fluor albus	10
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	13
Scirrhus pylori	1
Mammary Abſcœſs	1
Scirrhus and Cancer uteri	2
Scirrhus of the liver	4
Jaundice	3
Prolapſus ani	1
Rickets and Struma	8
Tabes meſenterica	11
Worms	11

Dentition

Dentition	2
Contractura	1
Thruſh	2
Strophulus	4
Lepra and Scaly Tetter	7
Purpura	1
Pompholyx	1
Herpes	1
Intertrigo	1
Impetigo	5
Ecthyma	2
Itch and Prurigo	15
Porrigo	6
Acne	3
Lupus	1
Sycoſis	1

Died of Peripneumony 1; Apoplexy 1; Malignant Fever 5; Scarlatina anginoſa 4; Small-pox 1; Pemphigus 1; Fevers in infancy 2; Hectica ſenilis 3; Pulmonary Conſumption 9; general Dropſy 2; Hydrothorax 1; Hydrocephalus 2; Devonſhire Colic 1; Ulcer of the breaſt 1; Scirrhus of the pylorus 1; Tabes meſenterica 1.

October and November were cloudy or foggy, with much rain: in December, there

were twenty cloudy, and ten clear and frosty days, with but little rain throughout.

Malignant Fevers continued, with the train of symptoms stated in the last report, till nearly the middle of December. The fatal cases of Scarlatina were in the month of November, when the disease was more extended, and more virulent, than at any period within my recollection, since the years 1786, 1787. The Small-pox and Hooping-cough retained the same proportion to Fevers as in the last report; but I have not observed any cases of Measles since the middle of September. Rheumatic and other inflammatory complaints were much increased by the humid air, and variable temperature in October, and November. Disorders of the bowels were, perhaps for a similar reason, numerous and violent. It may be added, that the same period proved, in a more than usual degree, fatal to persons affected with Consumptions, and other pulmonic diseases of long standing.

A case of febrile Nettle-rash being put down in the foregoing list, I will take the opportunity of observing, that, when the Urticaria is an acute disease, the eruption, which appears on the third day, is preceded by pain and

and ſickneſs at the ſtomach, head-ache, a ſenſation of anxiety and oppreſſion, with a quick, ſmall pulſe, a whiteneſs of the tongue, great languor, and faintneſs. Theſe ſymptoms are partially relieved on the appearance of the eruption; but the conſtitution remains diſordered till the raſh goes off with exfoliations of the cuticle, about the eighth day of the diſeaſe.

The febrile Urticaria is not contagious. It affects adults of a plethoric or ſanguine habit, who indulge themſelves with eating and drinking too freely. I have, however, often ſeen it in infants and children, to whom it occaſions inexpreſſible torment.

Sennertus* and Juncker† have given a ſhort account of this diſeaſe. Sydenham mentions it under the article Febris eryſipelatoſa.‡ The eruption is aptly deſcribed by Linnæus in the following terms: "Sudamina pruriginoſa, inæqualia, ruberrima, dilatabilia, fugacia, recidivantia, furfuraceo-evaneſcentia. Hectica brevis, benigna."

* Pract. Med. lib. v. part 1. cap. 26.

† Conſpectus, tab. 64.

‡ Sect. v. cap. 6.

An Acute Diſeaſe, with an eruption of Miliary Puſtules on the ſkin, and of Aphthæ in the mouth, affects particular conſtitutions during the ſpring and autumn. The ſymptoms of it will be deſcribed at large in the Treatiſe on Cutaneous Diſeaſes. I ſhall only obſerve at preſent, that this complaint has not been fatal in any inſtance preſented to my obſervation; and that it is neither contagious nor epidemical, as ſome of the German phyſicians have ſuppoſed.

The total number of deaths by the Small-pox in 1798 greatly exceeds that of the preceding year. (See page 140.) This diſeaſe was ſo general in 1796, that few could have eſcaped its contagion. The new ſubjects for ſuch an increaſed mortality muſt be produced by the births within the two years, and by the influx of adult perſons from the country who never had the Small-pox, to the amount of ſeveral hundreds annually.

General Bill of Mortality for the Year 1798.

Abortive and Still-born	594	Aſthma and Phthiſic	421
Abſceſs	26	Bedridden	2
Aged	1117	Bleeding	22
Ague	8	Burſten and Rupture,	18
Apoplexy, and ſuddenly	224	Cancer	71
		Child-bed	144

Colds

Colds	4	Lethargy	1
Colic, Gripes, and Twiſting of the Guts	13	Livergrown	7
Conſumption	4533	Lunatic	83
Convulſions	3663	Meaſles	196
Cough and Hooping Cough	418	Miſcarriage	2
Croup	14	Mortification	262
Diabetes	1	Palpitation of the heart	1
Dropſy	784	Palſy	86
Evil	4	Pleuriſy	15
Fevers of all kinds	1754	Quinſy	5
Fiſtula	3	Rheumatiſm	3
Flux	12	Rickets	1
French Pox	39	Scurvy	4
Gout	111	Small-pox	2237
Gravel, Stone, and Strangury	16	Sore-throat	12
Grief	7	Sores and Ulcers	11
Headmouldſhot, Horſe-ſhoe-head, and Water in the head	67	Spaſm	2
Jaundice	69	St. Anthony's Fire	4
Jaw locked	2	Stoppage in the ſtomach	4
Inflammation	384	Teeth	370
Itch	1	Thruſh	49
		Worms	3
		Violent Deaths, Caſualties, &c.	247

Chriſtened	Males 9497	} 17,927.	
	Females 8430		
Buried	Males 8964	} 18,155.	
	Females 9191		

Out of this number, 5728 died under two years of age, 394 between eighty and a hundred, and 2 upwards of a hundred.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 1ſt of Jan. to the 10th of Feb. 1799.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	33
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	9
Ophthalmia	4
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Ulcerated and Specky Sore-throat	6
Scarlatina anginoſa	5
Meaſles	3
Small-pox	4
Hooping Cough	7
Malignant Fever	5
Slow Fever	4
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	4
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	12
Pemphigus infantilis	1
Quotidian	2
Hectic	3

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	86
Pulmonary Conſumption	17
Spitting of blood	5
Epiſtaxis	2
Chronic Rheumatiſm	6
Rheumatic Tooth-ache	4
Sciatica, Lumbago, &c.	8
Dropſy	7
Aſthenia	19
Cephalæa and Vertigo	17
Syncope	1
Palſy	6
Chorea	2
Epilepſy	1
Hyſteria	2
Palpitatio	3
Hydrocephalus	1
Dyſpepſia	15
Gaſtrodynia	8
Enterodynia	10
Hæmorrhoids	2
Diarrhœa	10
Colica Pictonum	2
Hernia	2
Gravel	3
Enureſis	2

Hæmaturia	1
Iſchuria	4
Menorrhœa	5
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	5
Fluor albus	2
Scirrhus uteri	1
Scirrhus hepatis	2
Struma	8
Contractura	1
Tabes meſenterica	2
Worms	6
Dentition	3
Thruſh	4
Papulous Eruptions on the ſkin,	3
Lepra	1
Scaly Tetter	3
Prurigo	1
Itch	4
Scald-head	6
Ecthyma	3
Impetigo	1
Shingles	1
Erythema	2
Gutta roſea	2

During the period above-mentioned, the only diſeaſes which claimed attention from their frequency, were catarrhal, and other pulmonic

pulmonic affections. Theſe, however, probably from the mildneſs of the ſeaſon after the firſt week in January, were not ſo fatal, nor nearly ſo violent in their ſymptoms, as ſimilar caſes occurring about the ſame period for three years paſt. Caſes of the Hooping Cough, likewiſe, were numerous among children, but not fatal to any within my knowledge. Dr. Fothergill's remarks on this diſeaſe, with his eſtimate of its extent and fatality in different years, may be recommended to notice.* His plan of adminiſtering repeatedly antimonial emetics, though on many occaſions advantageous, is not found ſo generally ſucceſsful as has been ſtated by him in the "Medical Obſervations "and Inquiries."† The Hooping Cough at its commencement has a febrile ſtage, which laſts one, two, or three weeks. Afterwards, although the paroxyſms of coughing recur at intervals, it ranks as a chronic diſeaſe. While the febrile ſymptoms continue, the requiſite mode of practice is the ſame as for

* On Weather and Diſeaſes, for May, December, &c. 1751-2.

† Vol. iii. p. 319.

the Meaſles in their latter ſtage, — by bleeding, or the application of leeches; by emetics, bliſters, purgatives, fomentations, warm vapour, pediluvium, or other remedies, according to the patient's conſtitution, and to the urgency of ſymptoms, jointly conſidered. In mitigating the ſeverity of the cough, and in prolonging the intervals between the paroxyſms, at the latter period of the diſorder, I have found a watery ſolution of opium more efficacious than the extract of hemlock, or any other narcotic medicine hitherto employed.

The diſeaſe entitled Pemphigus infantilis coincides in its appearances with the Veſicular Fever, deſcribed by medical writers on the continent. It begins two or three days after birth in weak, emaciated infants, with large oblong veſicles, containing a ſemitranſparent lymph, and ſurrounded by a dark-red or livid baſe. The veſicles are often numerous, and appear ſucceſſively on the neck, breaſt, thighs, and abdomen. When broken, they are ſucceeded by ſpreading and painful ulcerations. The pain, fever, and reſtleſſneſs, attendant on the malady, were not alleviated by the bark, or other remedies employed for it; but, in every caſe, I have yet

yet ſeen, extinguiſhed life within ſeven or eight days.

It is not perhaps amiſs here to obſerve, that the numerous caſes of Pemphigus, given of late in periodical publications relating to medicine, have no affinity with the Veſicular Fever, but deſcribe a chronic eruption, well known in North Britain, and there denominated the Water-blebs; caſes of which have likewiſe been repeatedly marked in the preceding liſts of diſeaſes under the title of Pompholyx.

Under the article Iſchuria are comprized two caſes of the Renal Iſchuria, which I have elſewhere* ſtated as a diſeaſe affecting children, and ſometimes adults. It is uſually the effect of an inflammation of the bowels, or meſentery; and, if not early diſcriminated and treated with judgement, it terminates in gangrenous patches, becoming ſuddenly fatal.

* Medical Facts and Obſervations, vol. ii.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 10th of Feb. to the 20th of March.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	37
Acute Rheumatism	7
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Ophthalmia	3
Peripneumony	2
Malignant Fever	7
Scarlatina anginosa	10
Measles	7
Hooping Cough	3
Small-pox	3
Herpes zoster	1
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	4
Acute Diseases of Infants	11
Tertian	2
Hectic	2
Hemicrania	4

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyspnœa	87
Hæmoptoë	5
Pulmonary Consumption	12

Chronic

Chronic Rheumatiſm	18
Sciatica	2
Aſthenia	19
Dropſy	6
Paralyſis	6
Apoplexy	2
Cephalæa	6
Vertigo and Syncope	6
Hyſteria	3
St. Vitus's Dance	3
Dyſpepſia	12
Hæmatemeſis	1
Gaſtrodynia	7
Enterodynia	5
Diarrhœa	8
Conſtipatio	2
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Jaundice	1
Diabetes	1
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Menorrhœa	5
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	6
Fluor albus	3
Hæmorrhoids	2
Tabes meſenterica	3
Struma	5
Lichen pilaris	2
Prurigo	3

Lepra

Lepra	1
Purpura	1
Gutta roſacea	2
Impetigo	5
Ecthyma	1
Itch	6
Porrigo	8

It is worthy of remark that, notwithſtanding the predominance of Inflammatory complaints during the laſt ſix weeks, putrid Fevers, and the Scarlatina anginoſa in its malignant form, have been very prevalent. The latter, more eſpecially, has proved in many inſtances fatal; and, in thoſe who recovered, it produced, after the ceſſation of the fever, anaſarca, ſwelling of the abdomen, ſwelling of the lips and parotid glands, ſtrumous ophthalmia, with an eruption of the Favus, and hectical ſymptoms of long duration. This diſeaſe ſpread from London to the adjacent villages, and was almoſt univerſal in Sommers Town, during the month of February.

By the term Conſtipatio is expreſſed not merely coſtiveneſs, but a ſtoppage of the bowels from ſome organical, or local affection, as hernia, and introſuſceptio; ſcirrhoſity,

ſcirrhoſity, or ſtrictures of ſome portion of the inteſtine, narrowing and often obliterating the canal. Tumors and ſingular concretions, external to the bowels, have occaſionally the ſame effect. Strictures take place in different ſituations; but they occur ſo frequently about the ſigmoid flexure of the colon, near its termination in the rectum, that this part ſhould be carefully examined in every caſe of a total obſtruction of the bowels. The inſertion of an unyielding tallow candle, though often practiſed, has been generally found painful and inefficacious. It is requiſite for the purpoſe to employ a bougie thirteen inches long, and of a proportionate ſtrength; which ſhould alſo be directed, with a nice hand, by a ſkilful ſurgeon. I lately ſaw a lady thus relieved, who had been twenty-ſix days without any evacuation from the bowels, and who ſeemed nearly exhauſted by violence of pain, and diſtenſion of the abdomen, inceſſant vomiting, hiccough, cold ſweats, &c. It is remarkable how long patients ſubſiſt under theſe diſtreſſing circumſtances. In one inſtance, the time was twenty-nine days;* in another patient, thirty-

* This caſe, with obſervations upon it, appears in the London Medical Journal for 1784, vol. v. p. 402.

three

three days.* As the latter recovered after enduring every torture ſuch a diſorder could inflict, practitioners may be encouraged to perſevere ſteadily in their attentions, and to retain ſome hopes even in the greateſt extremity.

The caſe of Diabetes is given at large, with the appearances after death, by Dr. Marcet, in the firſt volume of the Medical and Phyſical Journal. This diſeaſe has been relieved, and the ſaccharine quality of the urine removed, by animal diet, and the general plan recommended in Dr. Rollo's treatiſe on the ſubject: but I never yet met with a confirmed caſe, wherein there was not ſome conſiderable diſorder of the conſtitution, or a defect in ſome organ eſſential to life.

* Dr. W. Robertſon, now phyſician at Bath, attended the perſon here referred to, who ſuffered no inconvenience afterwards. The caſe, with the Doctor's remarks upon it, will, I hope, be ſoon publiſhed.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of March to the 20th of April.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CATARRH	22
Acute Rheumatism	5
Pleuritic Stitches	3
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Specky Sore-throat	2
Ophthalmia	7
Scarlatina	6
Measles	3
Small-pox	3
Malignant Fever	5
Slow Fever	6
Abortus and Menorrhagia	4
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	2
Acute Diseases of Infants	8
Tertian	1
Hectica	7

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyspnœa	79
Hæmoptoë and Phthisis	18

Chronic

Chronic Rheumatiſm	12
Lumbago and Sciatica	5
Dropſy	9
Struma	5
Aſthenia	21
Hyſteria	3
Epilepſy	2
Chorea	2
Paralyſis	6
Cephalæa	8
Epiſtaxis	1
Dyſpepſia	10
Gaſtrodynia	5
Enterodynia	4
Diarrhœa	8
Colica Pictonum	2
Hæmorrhoids	3
Jaundice	2
Fluor albus	4
Chloroſis	8
Worms	3
Tabes meſenterica	3
Scirrhus	2
Itch and Prurigo	74
Lepra	1
Nettle-raſh	1
Purpura	2
Gutta roſea	3

Porrigo	4
Impetigo	1

The Meaſles, which prevailed extenſively in February, are at preſent declining. In one child, who had been previouſly affected with the Hooping Cough, the raſh was ſucceeded by numerous livid ſpots, diffuſed over nearly the whole body, and reſembling thoſe of the Purpura, or the Petechiæ ſine febre, in their moſt dangerous form. No harm, however, enſued; and the complaint was removed in about eight days.

The Scarlatina has, during the laſt three weeks, become much milder; ſo that all the caſes put down, terminated early and favourably.

Inflammation of the eyes, next to Catarrh, Cough, and Rheumatiſm, ſeems to have been the moſt general diſeaſe. It was very troubleſome; and, in many caſes, of long duration. The ſame complaint occurred epidemically in the months of February, March, and April, of the laſt year. (See page 149.)

It may not be amiſs to obſerve, that the Itch, which is uſually rife in the ſpring-ſeaſon, has, during the laſt ſix weeks, taken

a very wide range, and appeared in many reſpectable families, never before liable to its viſitations.

Many caſes of the Porrigo having been noted in the two preceding months, I think it proper here to remark, that under this generic term are comprized the Achores, Favi, Scabies capitis, and Cruſta lactea, deſcribed by medical writers, and often conſidered ſeparately. The word Tinea, employed in nearly the ſame ſignification as Porrigo, is an Arabic term corrupted, and ſhould therefore be baniſhed from profeſſional language; more eſpecially as we have an appropriate claſſical term handed down to us from the higheſt authority: — "Porrigo autem eſt, ubi inter pilos quædam "quaſi ſquamulæ ſurgunt; eæque a cute re-"ſolvuntur; et interdum madent, multo "ſæpius ſiccæ ſunt. Idque evenit modò "ſine ulcere, modò exulcerato loco. "Huic quoque modò malo odore, modò "nullo accedente. Fereque id in capillo "fit, rariùs in barbâ, aliquando etiam in "ſupercilio."* — To this account may be added, that the diſeaſe is contagious; and

* Celſ. de Medicin. lib. vi. cap. 2.

that

that its puſtules often extend from the ſcalp to various parts of the body. Hence it has been confounded with the Itch, from which, however, it is diſtinguiſhable by the form, contents, and diſtribution, of the puſtules.

The term Impetigo applies only to the firſt ſpecies of the diſeaſe ſo denominated by Celſus: — "Quæ ſimilitudine Scabiem repræſentat; nam et rubet, et durior eſt, et exulcerat, et rodit: . . . videnturque eſſe in eâ quaſi bullulæ quædam, ex quibus, interpoſito tempore, quaſi ſquamulæ ſolvuntur."* — He diſtinguiſhes another complaint, ſomewhat ſimilar, but with larger puſtules, — "Diſtat autem ab eâ quæ magis exulcerata eſt, et variis ſimiles puſtulas habet." — This probably refers to the Ecthyma, a diſeaſe frequently noted in the foregoing pages, and which is characterized by an eruption of inflamed puſtules, termed, by the Greeks, Phlyzacia,† appearing moſtly on the extremities; but neither contagious nor attended with fever.

* Celſ. lib. v. cap. 28. §. 17.

† Hippocr. Prænot. Coac. §. 2. — Compare Celſ. lib. v. cap. 28. §. 15.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of April to the 20th of May.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

FEBRILE DISEASES.

CATARRH	13
Acute Rheumatiſm	5
Hooping Cough	6
Meaſles	5
Scarlatina	4
Chicken-pox	1
Contagious, malignant Fever	3
Slow Fever	4
Child-bed Fever	3
Febrile Diſeaſes of Infants	9
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Hæmoptoë	1
Hæmatemeſis	1
Quotidian	1
Tertian	1
Hectic	5

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	36
Pulmonary Conſumption	7
Pleurodyne	4
Chronic Rheumatiſm	15
Aſthenia	21
Dropſy	7
Scrophula	5
Rachitis	2
Cephalæa	8
Epilepſy	1
Vertigo	2
Dyſpepſia	10
Pains of the ſtomach and bowels,	14
Diarrhœa	6
Conſtipation	2
Chloroſis, &c.	7
Menorrhœa	5
Abortion	2
Fluor albus	2
Dyſury and Gravel	3
Hæmorrhoids	2
Tabes meſenterica	6
Scirrhus	4
Tooth-raſh, &c.	6
Itch and Prurigo	15
Lepra and Scaly Tetter	5

Intertrigo	2
Acne	5
Nettle-raſh	1
Purpura	2
Erythema	1
Porrigo	8

From the 20th of April to the middle of May the atmoſphere was chill, damp, and cloudy, the wind being moſtly north, north-eaſt, and north-weſt. The prevailing diſeaſes were Coughs, Catarrh, Rheumatiſm, Hooping Cough, and Meaſles. All the caſes of Meaſles, as well as of the Scarlatina, and Malignant Fever, terminated favourably. One patient, two years old, died in the febrile ſtage of the Hooping Cough, which, at this ſeaſon of the year, ſeldom happens. The caſe of Hæmorrhagy from the ſtomach and bowels proved fatal within two days, many quarts of black blood being diſcharged by frequent and violent fits of vomiting.

The diſeaſe entitled Chloroſis is attended with paleneſs and emaciation, depraved appetite, ſuppreſſion or non-appearance of the catamenia, pains of the ſtomach and limbs, with anaſarca; fixed pains of the head, difficulty of breathing, &c. Young females

are

often affected with it, who follow a
entary occupation in close streets, or
row, crowded tenements, and seldom
oy the benefit of fresh air. The disorder
not, however, confined to this class of
ople. We cannot be surprised that young
lies, of the highest rank, should suffer
ually: eight months of the year they
on thick carpets, in close rooms, heated
register-stoves; have large fires kept in
ir bed-rooms, never stir out except in
riages, and are often too much restricted
their diet. The weakness and extreme
stability, induced by this mode of living,
t only brings on the Chlorotic state, but,
er the slightest exposure to damp, or cold
s renders them also liable to be affected
th Pains and Inflammations of the bowels,
heumatism, Head-ache, Catarrh, Phthisis,
c. more especially as, in the article of dress
that period of life, health is always sacri-
ced to fashion.

An effectual remedy for Chlorosis, but more
when assisted by exercise, and a proper re-
men, is the solution of Green Vitriol, with
ced alcali and myrrh, recommended by the
e Dr. Griffiths. The result of this com-
und is a precipitation of iron from the

vitriol, and the formation of a neutral ſalt. As the medicine, in a liquid form, is generally found offenſive to the ſtomach, it muſt appear deſirable to obtain ſeparately the precipitate, which may be afterwards combined at pleaſure with the ſalt, with myrrh, or any other ingredient, and made into pills. Such a preparation of Iron I have been in the habit of preſcribing ever ſince the year 1783, and believe that all medical practitioners, after having once given it a fair trial, would be diſpoſed to employ it more frequently than any other Chalybeate. An opportunity of experiencing its good effects is afforded to every one, as it may now be had of the principal chemiſts in London: it is alſo prepared with great accuracy at Apothecaries' Hall, and ſold there under the title of Ferrum præcipitatum.* For the following obſervations, reſpecting this preparation, I am obliged to Mr. Francis Moore, the ingenious chemical

* Pills made of the unwaſhed precipitate, combined with myrrh, have been advertiſed and ſold as a noſtrum. I am ſorry to notice a circumſtance ſo diſgraceful to the medical profeſſion, but muſt obſerve, that the above preſcription was communicated, ſome years ago, to the vender of the pills, by a Fellow of the London College of Phyſicians, under whoſe name the medicine is, I believe, yet ſold and recommended to public attention.

operator

operator at the Hall. [See Report, Oct. 1799.]

" I have repeatedly made the Ferrum ' Præcipitatum from Dr. Griffiths's valuable ' medicine, which is a carbonated oxyd of ' iron, mixed with ſulphat of pot-aſh. The ' following proceſs appears to me the beſt, ' and affords a very beautiful preparation, ' viz. Twelve pounds of ſulphat of iron ' (green vitriol) are diſſolved in twenty-four ' gallons of diſtilled water, with the addition ' of eight ounces of ſulphuric acid, which ' greatly accelerates and aſſiſts the ſolution ' of it. About twelve pounds of kali p.p. ' are to be added, or more, till no farther ' precipitation is viſible, care being taken ' not to put in too much kali, as it re- ' diſſolves a ſmall proportion of the iron. ' The precipitate muſt then be waſhed with ' a quantity of hot diſtilled water, ſufficient ' to diſſolve all the ſulphat of pot-aſh formed, ' and is afterwards to be carefully dried for ' uſe. — I prefer the precipitate obtained ' without heat, conſidering it as more ' carbonated and likely to agree better ' with the ſtomach. This mode affords one- ' twelfth of precipitate more than when ' made with hot water, but the colour is

" leſs beautiful, and it dries of a gritty or " brittle conſiſtence. — The exceſs of ſul- " phuric acid is uſed as a medium to car- " bonate the iron, as well as aſſiſt the ſolu- " tion at firſt, by the carbonic acid which it " diſengages from the kali in its combination."

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 10th of May to the 20th of June.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	11
Hooping Cough	3
Scarlatina	2
Catarrh	8
Acute Rheumatiſm	6
Rheumatic pains of the face and jaw	5
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Angina parotidæa	1
Pneumonic Inflammation	4
Inflammation of the bowels	1
Peritoneal Inflammation	3
Hepatitis	1

Nephritis

Nephritis	1
Volvulus	1
Ophthalmia	3
Otalgia	1
Eryſipelas	2
Zona herpetica	1
Synochus, or Summer Fever	6
Contagious, malignant Fever	6
Apoplexy	2
Epiſtaxis	3
Hæmoptoë	4
Hæmatemeſis	2
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	2
Renal Hæmorrhagy	2
Slow Fever	2
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	3
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	12
Tertian	1
Hectica	3

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	43
Cough and Dyſpnœa	31
Chronic Rheumatiſm	20
Lumbago and Sciatica	7
Pleurodyne	4
Pulmonary Conſumption	12

Cephalæa	6
Epilepſy	2
Chorea	1
Paralyſis	2
Dyſpepſia	11
Gaſtrodynia	7
Enterodynia	5
Bilious vomiting, and Diarrhœa,	12
Jaundice	3
Gravel, Stone, &c.	4
Chloroſis	4
Menorrhœa	8
Abortion	3
Amenorrhœa	4
Fluor albus	3
Emanſio	2
Scirrhus uteri	1
Scirrhus of the liver	2
Dropſy	3
Struma	6
Tabes meſenterica	4
Hydrocephalus	1
Worms	3
Hæmorrhoids	2
Prolapſus ani	1
Scaly Tetter	4
Nettle-raſh	1
Pompholyx	1

Impetigo	3
Ecthyma	2
Itch and Prurigo	12
Gutta roſacea	4
Porrigo	3

he ſeries of incongruous complaints, ſtated
ıe above liſt, is an uſual effect, in our
ıte, of hot ſun-ſhine, counteracted by
harp eaſt and north-eaſt winds, which
ly prevail from the commencement of
g till the ſummer ſolſtice. Indeed, the
ſes of winter, ſpring, and ſummer, ſeem
ıve been crowded together within the laſt
weeks, and have kept medical practiti-
s almoſt conſtantly engaged.
mong contagious, epidemic diſorders, the
ſes have lately taken the lead; but,
an inſpection of the liſt, it will appear,
inflammatory and hæmorrhagic com-
ıts formed the moſt extenſive ſet of acute
ſes; the latter ſeries being particularly
ınt and obſtinate, and, in many inſtances,

he caſes of Renal Hæmorrhagy were
ıded with nearly the ſame ſenſations as
felt in Nephritis. Blood was diſcharged
g with the urine for eight or ten days.

Small coagula were alſo frequently paſſed with very conſiderable pain. The diſeaſe, entitled Hæmaturia in many preceding liſts of complaints, differs from the Renal Hæmorrhagy which occurred this month, in being wholly without fever. It moſtly affects boys, and has many returns; but neither occaſions pain of the loins, nor any particular uneaſineſs.

The Angina parotidæa (Mumps or Branks) affected a young man, 26 years of age. When his teſticle was ſwelled and inflamed, as uſual on the 5th day of the diſeaſe, he became delirious, ſometimes comatoſe, had a weak pulſe, a dry, brown tongue, and other ſymptoms of a malignant Fever. The caſe, though alarming in its appearance, terminated favourably on the fourteenth day. I do not think this diſeaſe, during the laſt twenty years, has ever been epidemic and contagious, as ſtated by Dr. Ruſſell.*

* " Angina hæc ex epidemicis una eſt et contagioſa, et " per totas domus graſſari ſolet, niſi anteà fortaſsè juvenes " eodem morbo laboraverint." Dr. Ruſſell has given an enlarged account of this diſeaſe in his treatiſe, de Morbis Glandularum, page 115. He alſo relates a caſe, attended with violent fever and delirium, which proved fatal: the patient had been twice bled: the other remedies employed for him were bliſters, purgatives, and nitre, page 117.

In

In the caſe of Hepatitis the peritoneal covering of the liver, on its upper ſide, ſeemed to be the part chiefly affected. The edge of the liver was hard, and painful when preſſed. The tongue was covered with a whitiſh fur; the pulſe was languid, and not frequent; the patient was rather coſtive, but had no vomitings. He referred his complaint to drinking cold water after being much heated with work. The whole duration of the diſeaſe was three weeks; the pain, and tumour, and hardneſs, gradually yielding to the repeated application of leeches, with the uſe of calomel and ſal catharticus amarus.

Intermittents, ſo far as my knowledge has extended, have not, any time within twenty years, been epidemic in London: their number in all the foregoing liſts muſt indeed appear remarkably ſmall. Dr. Sydenham* mentions them, as, in his time, frequent and inveterate; and Dr. Fothergill, not fifty years ago, has marked their regular occurrence every ſpring and autumn.† Whence

* Conſtitutio epidemica Annorum 1661, 62, 63, 64, Londini.

† On Weather and Diſeaſes, May and September, 1751; April and June, 1753; June and September, 1754.

can ariſe this difference? I am diſpoſed to refer it to the practice of draining, and to the improved modes of cultivating land in Eſſex, Kent, and ſome other adjoining counties, from which either agues were formerly imported, or the effluvia cauſing them were conveyed by particular winds, not to any change which the air of London itſelf has undergone.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of June to the 20th of July.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

SCARLATINA anginoſa	7
Meaſles	6
Small-pox	2
Chicken-pox	1
Hooping Cough	2
Contagious, malignant Fever	3
Acute Rheumatiſm	7
Catarrh	5
Ophthalmia	3

Inflammatory

Inflammatory Sore-throat . .	3
Aphthous Sore-throat	4
Pneumonic Inflammation . . .	1
Inflammation of the bowels . .	2
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Hæmorrhagy from the bowels .	2
Hæmorrhagy from the lungs .	7
Renal Hæmorrhagy	1
Epiſtaxis	2
Synochus, or Summer Fever .	6
Child-Bed and Milk Fever . .	3
Febrile Diſeaſes of Infants . .	9
Hectica	6

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	32
Pleuritic Stitches	2
Pulmonary Conſumption . . .	7
Chronic Rheumatiſm	11
Lumbago and Sciatica	6
Aſthenia	25
Paralyſis	4
Head-ache and Vertigo	6
Melancholia	3
Chorea	1
Hyſteria	1
Diarrhœa and Bilious vomiting,	18
Dyſpepſia	11

Gaſtrodynia

Gaſtrodynia	10
Enterodynia	6
Devonſhire Colic	2
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	4
Menorrhœa	5
Abortus	2
Fluor albus	5
Dyſury	3
Iſchuria	7
Enureſis	1
Tabes meſenterica	6
Dropſy	9
Struma	5
Worms	3
Rickets	3
Jaundice	4
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Scirrhus of the uterus	1
Stone and Gravel	3
Itch and Prurigo	7
Lepra	1
Scaly Tetter	2
Lichen	2
Impetigo	1
Eczema	1
Ecthyma	3
Porrigo	2
Acne	2

Much

Much rain fell at the latter end of June, and in the month of July: the wind was variable, but moſtly weſt, ſouth-weſt, weſt-ſouth-weſt, and ſouth-ſouth-weſt. In conſequence of the chill, and moiſt ſtate of the air, inflammatory complaints ſtill bore a large proportion to infectious and other acute diſeaſes. The diſpoſition to Hæmorrhagy has alſo continued with the ſame effects as were ſtated in the laſt report.

All the caſes of Scarlatina, Meaſles, Fever, and Hooping Cough, terminated favourably. I am ſorry to ſuggeſt the poſſibility that the Meaſles may occur twice in the ſame perſon, but have little doubt of it from a circumſtance which took place in the preſent month. Two children, under ſeven years of age, had the diſeaſe very ſeverely from a female ſervant who was taken ill after her entrance on duty at the houſe. No precaution was obſerved reſpecting the children, whom I myſelf had attended through the meaſles under a mild form, in July, 1797. They then received the infection from a girl who came to ſpend with them the Midſummer vacation from a ſchool, where the young ladies had been generally affected with the diſeaſe. Similar inſtances have been occaſionally mentioned

to me by practitioners, but I remained ſomewhat incredulous, till ſtaggered, or rather convinced, by the caſes above-mentioned. It may not be amiſs to remark, that one of the children had the Scarlatina two years before. The only concluſion I can at preſent draw from theſe caſes is, that the eruption, if merely attended with watery eyes and a ſenſation of roughneſs in the throat, is not always ſufficient to prevent a return of the complaint afterwards, with ſevere cough, hoarſeneſs, difficulty of breathing, and a violent diſorder of the conſtitution.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of July to the 20th of Auguſt.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	9
Scarlatina	1
Small-pox	1
Hooping Cough	3

Contagious

Contagious, malignant Fever	7
Synochus, or Summer Fever	4
Cholera	1
Slow Fever and Hectic	4
Catarrh	6
Acute Rheumatiſm	2
Eryſipelas	1
Inflammatory Sore-throat	3
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	3
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	8

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Aſthenia	28
Chronic Rheumatiſm	10
Dropſy	8
Paralyſis	2
Apoplexy	1
Cephalæa	5
Hyſteria	2
Epilepſy	1
Cough and Dyſpnœa	15
Hæmoptoë	2
Pleurodyne	1
Pulmonary Conſumption	5
Dyſpepſia	12
Gaſtrodynia	7
Pyroſis	2
Enterodynia	5

Diarrhœa

Diarrhœa	13
Bilious vomiting	3
Colica Pictonum	1
Hæmorrhoids	4
Fluor albus	5
Menorrhœa	5
Chlorosis, &c.	7
Jaundice	2
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Scirrhus of the womb	2
Prolapsus	1
Dysury	1
Worms	2
Rickets	3
Struma	4
Tabes mesenterica	2
Lichen	2
Lepra	1
Scaly Tetter	3
Urticaria	1
Rosеola	1
Erythema	1
Ringworm	1
Itch and Prurigo	13
Porrigo	2
Acne	3
Lupus	1

The

The long continuance of wet and cold weather has not produced, in the courſe of the two laſt months, any conſiderable extenſion of diſeaſes. No complaint was ſo general as the Meaſles, which have ſpread more widely ſince the ſolſtice. The diſeaſe has however appeared in a very mild form, as it often does in the ſummer months, with but a ſlight cough, and a moderate degree of fever.

The Malignant, contagious Fevers occurred in the cloſe and crowded dwellings of the poor. That the number of them ſhould be greater than uſual might be partly owing to the long ſeries of damp and windy days, which confined moſt of the individuals of families at home, and prevented ventilation by open windows, &c. Nevertheleſs, induction, from the experience of many years, enables me to aſcertain, that mild open winters, and chill, even though moiſt ſummers, are, on the whole, moſt favourable to the health of the inhabitants of London. In confirmation of this remark, I beg leave to quote Dr. Fothergill's "Obſervations on "Weather and Diſeaſes, November, 1751." —"The concluſion of the laſt and the be-

"ginning

" ginning of the preſent month were mode-
" rate, and the weekly Bills of Mortality
" very little affected. After the cold and
" froſty weather ſet in, the burials increaſed
" from 319 to 395, and kept up nearly to
" the ſame number the week following. A
" more temperate, moiſt ſeaſon ſucceeding,
" reduced them to 338. It has been fre-
" quently obſerved, and, as far as the Bills
" may be depended on, is demonſtrable, that
" an exceſs of wet, with moderate warmth,
" is not ſo injurious to our conſtitutions, as
" a ſevere cold ſeaſon."

He farther remarks, in the report for December, 1757, " From comparing the ac-
" counts of the weather given in the pre-
" ceding months, it will appear, that the
" ſeaſons, excepting a greater tendency to
" rain than has happened for ſeveral years
" paſt, have been uncommonly moderate;
" no extremes of heat or cold, nor any great
" or ſudden changes, in reſpect to either of
" theſe qualities. This may, perhaps, in
" a great meaſure, have contributed to the
" healthineſs of the year in this metro-
" polis, it having been before obſerved, that
" no weather is in common ſo little pro-

" ductive

" ductive of acute and fatal diſeaſes, as the " warm and the moiſt, nor any ſo dangerous, " in theſe reſpects, as the oppoſite."

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Auguſt to the 20th of Sept.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever	19
Meaſles	14
Scarlatina	2
Small-pox	4
Hooping Cough	3
Catarrh	10
Pneumonic Inflammation	4
Acute Rheumatiſm	3
Eryſipelas	1
Epiſtaxis	1
Hæmoptoë	2
Hæmatemeſis	1

Inteſtinal

Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	1
Hepatitis	1
Enteritis	2
Synochus, or Summer Fever	12
Cholera	2
Slow Fever	5
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	15
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	3
Aphthous Fever	2
Hydrophobia	1
Hectica	4

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	26
Phthiſis pulmonalis	10
Pleurodyne	1
Chronic Rheumatiſm	5
Aſthenia	19
Anaſarca	8
Paralyſis	2
Dyſpepſia	20
Gaſtrodynia	11
Enterodynia, and Colic	10
Conſtipatio	3
Bilious vomiting, and Diarrhœa,	22
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	15
Fluor albus	4
Menorrhœa	3

Prolapſus

Prolapſus uteri	1
Scirrhus of the uterus	2
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Jaundice	4
Tabes meſenterica	3
Worms	3
Dyſury and Gravel	5
Lepra	3
Shingles	2
Nettle-raſh	1
Erythema	1
Itch	6
Porrigo	3

The number of Contagious Fevers has been much increaſed during the month of September, either from a continuance of the cauſes aſſigned in the laſt report, or from the general influence of the autumnal ſeaſon on the human body, by which it is rendered more than uſually ſuſceptible of almoſt every ſpecies of infection (ſee page 105). This effect appears from the proportion of Fevers to other acute diſeaſes ſtated in the above liſt, and is farther proved by the obſervation of practitioners differently ſtationed; all of whom agree, that, along with Malignant Fevers, the Meaſles, Small-pox, Scarlatina, &c.

&c. have begun to ſpread rapidly and widely.

Perſons, much expoſed to the viciſſitudes of the atmoſphere, were affected with the Synochus, with Eryſipelas, pneumonic Inflammation, Diarrhœa, Cholera, and violent Pains, or Inflammation of the bowels, diſeaſes which have been attended with conſiderable danger, and, in many inſtances, fatal. In one of the caſes of Summer Fever, which did not at firſt ſeem alarming, a raſh ſuddenly appeared on the neck and arms, before the end of the firſt week; livid ſpots, with a dry, brown tongue, ſucceeded: the patient became tremulous, confuſed in his ideas, and unable to articulate: he died on the third day from the commencement of theſe ſymptoms (ſee page 42). A caſe of Inflammation of the bowels likewiſe terminated fatally on the ſecond day.

Jaundice frequently occurs at this ſeaſon of the year, unattended by any conſiderable pain, or fever; and ſeems rather owing to an increaſe of the biliary ſecretion than to a ſtoppage of the ducts from the liver, the fœces being tinged with bile in the uſual manner. Saline purgatives, or a few doſes of calomel, preſently remove this complaint,

plaint, which affects children as well as adults.

The case of Hydrophobia occurred about the middle of August: the patient, a fine boy, ten years old, had been bitten by a dog, in Fetter-Lane, six weeks before the dread of water commenced. As he lived no more than two days after the appearance of this symptom, I had only an opportunity of paying him a single visit. His pulse was then hurried and irregular; his manner confused and agitated; his utterance rapid and abrupt; his eyes appeared bright and sparkling, and had a mixed expression of wildness and anxiety. He was perpetually hawking up some frothy phlegm, which seemed to irritate the larynx. When a glass of water was presented to him, a rattling and convulsive motion took place in his throat, rendering deglutition impracticable: the water, whether applied to his lips, or merely put in his sight, seemed to excite every mark of consternation and horror. All the above symptoms could, however, be produced by other means as strongly as by the application of liquids. When the attending surgeon attempted, without any objection made by the patient, to examine the state of the tonsils,

&c. the ſpoon no ſooner approached his teeth, than the muſcles of the throat were thrown into violent action, and he made a noiſe, which was aptly enough compared, by thoſe around him, to the ſnarling of a fierce dog about to receive chaſtiſement. At the time of our viſit to this wretched boy, he was more compoſed than he had been through the preceding night. He had, we were informed, had repeated fits of raving, in which he became almoſt unmanageable, and endeavoured to bite the hands of thoſe who held him. In the evening after we ſaw him, he began to complain of pain in the head, and of violent pains in the ſtomach and bowels: his fever and other ſymptoms appeared to increaſe; and, after enduring dreadful agony for ſeveral hours, he expired about two o'clock in the morning. The body was examined by an attentive and accurate obſerver, Mr. WHATELY, ſurgeon, of Bedford-row, to whom I am obliged for the following detail of the appearances after death:

"On opening the abdomen, all its con-
"tents appeared to be in a ſound ſtate,
"except the ſpleen, which adhered to all
"the parts with which it lies in contact;

"and

" and was ſmaller, and more convex, on its " external ſide, than it is uſually found to " be. Theſe appearances in the ſpleen had " been evidently produced by an inflam- " mation of that organ, ſome time before " the illneſs which was the immediate cauſe " of the patient's death. From its external " appearance, the ſtomach would have been " thought free from diſeaſe; but, when it " was opened, the whole of its villous coat " was found to be greatly inflamed. The " greateſt degree of this inflammation was " at the large extremity of the ſtomach, " and particularly about the cardia, around " which, to the extent of two or three " inches, the villous coat was abraded. The " inflammation did not extend to any part " of the inteſtinal canal: it ceaſed at the " pylorus; but it was continued from the " cardia, along the œſophagus, to the pha- " rynx. About two inches of the internal " coat of that part of the œſophagus, which " joins to the cardia, were alſo abraded. The " inflammation upon the œſophagus was not " confined merely to its internal ſurface, but " reached to its external coat, on which it " was likewiſe continued through its whole " extent; and, in different parts of the cel- " lular membrane adjoining to it, ſmall

" quantities of effuſed blood were found.
" The pharynx was very ſlightly inflamed.
" The uvula, palatum molle, and tonſils,
" were entirely free from inflammation.
" The left lung was of a more ſolid texture,
" of a darker colour, and fuller of blood,
" than it is ever found to be in its natural
" ſtate; all which circumſtances may be
" conſidered as the effects of inflammation.
" About three or four ounces of bloody
" water were found in the right cavity of
" the cheſt. There was likewiſe a ſlight
" inflammation on the internal membrane of
" the trachea; but it ceaſed near the larynx,
" which, with the epiglottis, was entirely
" free from inflammation. There was ſome
" inflammation on the external ſurface of
" the heart, but it did not extend to the
" inner ſurface of the ventricles."

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Sept. to the 20th of Oct.

Liſt of the Caſes which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever 13

Meaſles

Meaſles	5
Small-pox	2
Scarlet Fever	4
Hooping Cough	6
Catarrh and Pneumonia	13
Acute Rheumatiſm	2
Ophthalmia	3
Eryſipelas	1
Epiſtaxis	1
Hæmoptoë	1
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	1
Enteritis	1
Cholera	1
Slow Fever	1
Abortus and Menorrhagia	6
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	11
Hectic	3

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	20
Phthiſis pulmonalis	8
Chronic Rheumatiſm	5
Aſthenia	24
Dropſy	6
Struma	3
Cephalæa	8

Hyſteria	2
Epilepſy	1
Hydrocephalus	2
Dyſpepſia	16
Gaſtrodynia	10
Enterodynia	6
Diarrhœa, and Bilious vomiting	14
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	7
Iſchuria	1
Enureſis	1
Fluor albus	3
Cancer	1
Tabes meſenterica	2
Worms	2
Hernia	2
Prolapſus uteri	1
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Jaundice	1
Stricture of the Œſophagus	1
Itch	6
Prurigo	2
Nettle-raſh	2
Shingles	1
Impetigo	1
Acne	1
Lupus	1
Erythema	2
Purpura	1

Porrigo

Porrigo	5
Thruſh	4
Anthrax	1

The train of diſeaſes which has occurred during the preſent month differs but little from that in the preceding one. In the caſes of Scarlatina anginoſa, both of which were violent, and one fatal, the raſh re-appeared on the fourteenth day of the diſeaſe, that is, ſeven or eight days after the decline of the primary eruption, and went a ſecond time through the uſual courſe, terminating by a freſh deſquamation (ſee page 78). In one caſe I remember to have obſerved the ſame appearance a third time, about the twentieth day of the diſorder: whenever it occurs, it marks a lingering and virulent diſtemper.

The caſes of Bilious vomiting, which have been often put down in the ſummer months, are not of any certain duration, nor attended with much fever: indeed the pulſe is, for the moſt part, remarkably ſlow. Some caſes are attended with Syncope, or repeated fits of Fainting. Dr. Fothergill's remarks on this ſubject are ſo correct that little can be added to them: "September, 1752. Many have "been ſeized with pains about the region

" of the ſtomach, attended with ſickneſs, " vomiting of green, porraceous bile, and " coſtiveneſs. Shiverings, laſſitude, and pain " in the limbs, often accompanied the firſt " attack; in ſome, the leaſt attempt to raiſe " the head from the pillow produced a ten- " dency to vomiting. The heat in moſt " was moderate: the pulſe ſmall, and ſeldom " quick. Small doſes of the ſaline mixture, " made quite neutral,* with abſorbents, and " a few drops of Tinct. Thebaic. commonly " took off the diſpoſition to vomiting in a " ſhort time, and a doſe of rhubarb, or " hiera picra, then was retained, and gave " effectual relief.

" Emetics, though of the mildeſt kind, " ſeemed not to be of the uſe one might " have expected. The pain often ſeemed to " be increaſed afterwards; the tendency to " vomiting became more continual; the " laſſitude, reſtleſſneſs, and proneneſs to " vomit, upon motion, more troubleſome; " and the difficulty of procuring the neceſſary " diſcharges downwards increaſed."

* The ſaline draught, in the ſame combination, is preferable when taken during the ſtate of effervescence.

Caſes

Caſes of Scrophula, Rickets, and Tabes meſenterica, are numerous among children in the upper ranks of ſociety, owing ſometimes to too much indulgence, under the circumſtances mentioned page 195, ſometimes to an oppoſite extreme, adopted with an idea of giving hardineſs to the conſtitution by violent exerciſe, thin clothing, and a coarſe or ſpare diet. Among children of the lower claſs, theſe diſorders become inveterate and fatal, through confinement, bad air, want of cleanlineſs, and improper diet, in the ſituations hereafter deſcribed. [See the report for March, 1800.] If their exciting cauſes can be to any extent obviated, one of the beſt remedies for ſuch complaints is the precipitate of iron* before recommended; page 196. The powder, combined with a neutral ſalt, with the foſſil alcali, or with rhubarb, ſo proportioned

* The precipitate made with cold water, as mentioned page 197, though leſs ſtriking in its appearance than that prepared with hot water, is, I believe, preferable, being more carbonated, and having a cloſer affinity with Dr. Griffiths's chalybeate medicine, for which it is intended as a ſubſtitute. However, both the preparations are kept at Apothecaries' Hall: their reſpective advantages may therefore be aſcertained by thoſe who are willing to make the trial.

as to act moderately on the bowels, is particularly useful to infants and children, who, along with general debility, paleness, and emaciation, have the head and abdomen enormously swelled. For infants, the dose of the powder is five grains, which may be taken in honey, or mixed with the conserve of oranges. Adults take from eight to fifteen grains without inconvenience, and experience certain relief, under the state of Asthenia, Dropsy, Chlorosis, &c.; and during convalescence from Hectic, Slow Fever, Rheumatism, and Scarlatina anginosa.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Oct. to the 20th of Nov.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever	22
Scarlet Fever	15
Measles	12

Catarrh

Catarrh	18
Slow Fever	3
Peripneumony	3
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Acute Rheumatiſm	7
Ophthalmia	2
Angina	2
Enteritis	1
Eryſipelas	1
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	8
Hooping Cough	3
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5
Hectic	4

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	32
Hæmoptoë	3
Pulmonary Conſumption	6
Pleurodyne	3
Chronic Rheumatiſm	14
Aſthenia	16
Dropſy	16
Cephalæa	4
Vertigo	2
Epilepſy	3
Hyſteria	1
Palſy	2

Hydrocephalus	1
Palpitatio	1
Dyſpepſia	11
Gaſtrodynia	7
Hæmatemeſis	2
Bilious vomiting and Diarrhœa,	13
Enterodynia	5
Hæmorrhoids	3
Worms	2
Chloroſis and Amenorrhœa	11
Menorrhœa	2
Fluor albus	3
Prolapſus uteri	1
Scirrhus uteri	2
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Scirrhus of the liver	1
Jaundice	2
Tabes meſenterica	2
Rickets	4
Struma	6
Lepra	2
Itch and Prurigo	10
Impetigo	3
Nettle-raſh	1
Herpes	1
Acne	5
Dandriff	2
Porrigo	3

Erythema

Erythema	1
Purpura	1
Lupus	1

The Meaſles, though extenſively diffuſed, have continued mild and moderate. The Scarlet Fever has increaſed, ſince the laſt report, both in extent and in the violence of its ſymptoms:* but the Contagious malignant Fever has been the moſt frequent, as well as the moſt fatal, of all acute diſeaſes. Of the number ſpecified in the liſts for the preſent and preceding month, ten patients died; whereas, the uſual proportion of deaths from this Fever, weſtward of Temple-bar, is one in ſeventeen or eighteen caſes. The habitations of the poor, within or adjoining to the city, have ſuffered greatly; and ſome, I am informed, have been almoſt depopulated, the infection having extended to every in-

* An obſervation, made by Dr. Fothergill, reſpecting an enlargement of the Parotid Glands in this diſeaſe, was, during the preſent month, repeatedly verified: — "Both "children and adults had ſometimes large, hard tumours on "each ſide of the neck externally: where theſe appeared "early, and were very large, the ſick were in great danger; "and, if they recovered, the amendment was ſlow and "tedious." — On Weather and Diſeaſes, Oct. 1751.

mate.

mate. The rumour of a Plague was totally devoid of foundation. One of the perſons, ſaid to have been affected with it from opening ſome bales of prize-cotton, died with the uſual ſymptoms of a Peripneumony. It was afterwards aſcertained, by anatomical diſſection, that his death was occaſioned by a violent Inflammation of the lungs, which originated from intemperance in drinking, and expoſure to a cold and damp air at an unſeaſonable time of the night.

The Contagious malignant Fever was, in September, attended with a dull pain of the head, great debility, or ſenſe of laſſitude, and pains referred to the bones, tremblings, reſtleſſneſs, with ſlight delirium, a querulous tone of voice, a ſmall and frequent pulſe, heat of the ſkin, thirſt, and a fur upon the tongue, firſt of a dirty white colour, but turning, in the latter ſtage of the diſeaſe, to a yellowiſh brown. In this form the Fever continued thirteen days without any dangerous ſymptom, and then ſuddenly diſappeared, leaving the patient, for ſome time after, languid and diſpirited. All the individuals of a family were ſucceſſively affected with the ſame train of ſymptoms; many of them ſo ſlightly as not to be much confined to their beds.

To

To a contagious Fever alone, under this mild form, Dr. Cullen, preſerving a ſtrict analogy, ſhould have applied the denomination of Typhus mitior. He has improperly compriſed under it the ſlow or nervous Fever deſcribed by HUXHAM and GILCHRIST, which may rather be conſidered as a ſpecies of Hectic, and is not received by infection. [See page 5.]

In October and November, the diſeaſe, as is uſual, aſſumed its more dangerous form. The pain of the head was at firſt excruciating, and attended with great confuſion of ideas: a total loſs of ſtrength ſuddenly took place; and the limbs felt ſore, as if they had been all over bruiſed. The pulſe was weak and irregular: a thick fordid brown fur covered all the upper part of the tongue; the tongue itſelf became hard, dry, and almoſt immovable; and the teeth were covered with a brown or black cruſt. There was a ſmarting or burning heat of the ſkin, which conveyed an unpleaſant, benumbing ſenſation to the fingers and wriſt of the practitioner who felt the pulſe. The eyes were frequently ſuffuſed: the head-ache terminated, during the ſecond week, in coma or ſtupor, with great inſenſibility, deafneſs, &c. Theſe

ſymptoms

ſymptoms were, however, more favourable than a ſtate of agitation and watchfulneſs. In the fatal caſes, there occurred, a few hours before death, a laborious reſpiration, with a fluttering, irregular pulſe, difficulty of ſwallowing, and ſometimes hiccough. A favourable criſis was made by ſweating, accompanied, in ſome inſtances, by a ſenſation of coldneſs. A diarrhœa took place only in one patient. The critical days ſeemed to be the ſeventh, the twelfth, the fourteenth, the ſeventeenth, and the twenty-firſt; but the moſt numerous criſes were on the twelfth and fourteenth. The changes, whether for recovery or death, took place very ſuddenly.* I did not obſerve petechial ſpots in any of the caſes; nor the alternations of cold ſhiverings with fluſhes of heat, which moſt practical writers deſcribe as the primary ſymptoms of malignant Fever.

It will not, perhaps, be diſagreeable to my readers that I ſhould exhibit the following table of critical days, made from a hundred

* Although the total abſence of fever was not noticed by the medical attendants till on the days put down, it yet appeared, on a ſtrict inveſtigation, that, in ſome patients, the tongue became moiſt; and that the heat, delirium, &c. were removed in the courſe of the preceding evenings or nights.

and

and twenty caſes of Malignant contagious Fever, in which the beginning and termination could be diſtinctly marked. Let it, however, be underſtood, that the caſes were noted at different ſeaſons of the year, and not put down in the order of ſucceſſion. I may obſerve farther, that the table of criſes here given cannot be ſuppoſed to coincide with the obſervations on the ſubject made by Hippocrates, Aëtius, Galen, or Paulus; the Remittents and other Febrile diſeaſes, obſerved by them in the iſland of Thaſus, in Greece, and Aſia Minor, having little affinity with either the Synochus, or Contagious malignant Fever, occurring in this country.

Days of the Fever.	*No. of Criſes.*
4th,	Six.
5th or 6th,	Three.
7th,	Ten; one caſe fatal.
8th and 9th,	Five; two caſes fatal.
10th and 11th,	Ten; two caſes fatal on the 10th night; three on the 11th day.
12th,	Twelve; one caſe fatal.
13th,	Five; one caſe fatal.
14th,	Thirty; one caſe fatal.
15th,	Two.
16th,	None.

17th,

17th,	Fourteen.
18th,	One; fatal.
19th,	One; fatal.
20th,	None.
21ſt,	Twelve.
22d,	Three.
28th,	Two.
29th,	Three.
30th to 40th,	Two.

The caſes, which extended beyond the 22d day, were either inſtances of the Synochus, terminating in malignant Fever, (page 42,) or of the latter, when its ſtages recurred a ſecond time in the manner ſtated page 163. In thoſe caſes which terminated on or before the 7th day, the criſis was promoted by the early uſe of emetics.

The Peruvian bark was of no conſiderable advantage in the Fever above deſcribed, unleſs emetics had been adminiſtered before the end of the fourth day. Several of the patients were waſhed twice a day with cold water and vinegar, with only temporary relief. In the moſt unfavourable ſtate of the diſeaſe, bliſters were of great utility; they produced a remiſſion of the fever, made

the

the pulſe more free and regular, and ſeemed to be the means of procuring reſt. Some patients were relieved by them, in whom the loſs of ſight, of ſpeech, and of the power of deglutition, ſeemed to threaten immediate diſſolution. If two or three perſons lie in one bed, (which often happens in the crowded dwellings of the poor,) ſome of them uſually falls a victim to the Fever; I am, however, happy to mention one or two inſtances of a recovery, during the preſent month, even in ſuch unfavourable ſituations.

The ſtate of the atmoſphere muſt have undoubtedly cauſed the great extenſion and aggravated ſymptoms of the malignant Fever. On this ſubject it is proper to remark, that, between the 22d of June and the 17th of November, in a period of one hundred and forty-ſeven days, there were only eight days free from rain; a circumſtance, perhaps, unparalleled in meteorological obſervations.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of Nov. to the 20th of Dec.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

MEASLES	21
Scarlatina anginosa	8
Hooping Cough	5
Small-pox	4
Contagious, malignant Fever	9
Catarrh	20
Acute Rheumatism	6
Inflammatory Sore-throat	2
Pneumonia	3
Peritoneal Inflammation	2
Phlegmone testis	1
Shingles	1
Slow Fever	3
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	3
Abortus and Menorrhagia	4
Febrile Diseases of Infants	8
Hectica	5
Hemicrania	1

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	37
Hæmoptoë and Phthiſis	10
Chronic Rheumatiſm	16
Lumbago and Sciatica	5
Aſthenia	16
Dropſy	6
Cephalæa and Vertigo	10
Paralyſis	2
Epilepſy	3
Hyſteria	1
Lethargy	1
Dyſpepſia	15
Gaſtrodynia	8
Enterodynia	6
Jaundice	1
Diarrhœa	8
Colica Pictonum	2
Hæmorrhoids	2
Worms	3
Amenorrhœa	4
Fluor albus	1
Hæmaturia	2
Gravel and Dyſury	3
Struma	3
Cancer	1
Dentition and Tooth-raſh	4

Strophulus

Strophulus	2
Itch and Prurigo	6
Lepra	2
Ichthyoſis	1
Urticaria	1
Pompholyx	1
Impetigo	5
Porrigo	3
Acne	2
Elephantiaſis	1

No unfavourable caſe of Meaſles has yet occurred. The Scarlatina, however, has been attended with violent ſymptoms, and proved in two inſtances fatal. It is worthy of remark, that, when the Scarlatina, or Contagious, malignant Fevers, are fully formed, and a froſt takes place ſuddenly, both diſeaſes are thereby much aggravated, and often terminate fatally; but, at the ſame time, that the farther diffuſion of theſe and other epidemical contagious diſorders is uſually prevented by a very cold atmoſphere.

Since the commencement of the preſent froſt, few malignant Fevers have appeared; but this advantage may not be, perhaps, a ſubject of congratulation, as the pulmonic diſeaſes, which ariſe during a ſevere winter,

are

are usually much more extensive and more destructive than Fevers.

Many cases have been noted every month under the articles of Cephalæa and Vertigo. Head-ache takes place, unconnected with any particular febrile disease, from sorrow, fatigue, watching, and from sudden changes of temperature in summer as well as in winter. It is attended with a whiteness of the tongue, and a sensation of weakness or languor. A sharp and quick pulse, in this complaint, produces a throbbing at the temples, and an acute pain through the whole head. When the pulse is slow and feeble, the pain is described as dull and heavy, sometimes girding round the head, sometimes fixed at the nape of the neck.* In persons who have constitutionally a very languid circulation of the blood, the latter species of Head-ache recurs on every slight occasion, and often becomes periodical, returning every day, or every other day, at a stated hour, independently of any manifest exciting cause. Under this form it has received another

* With how much greater severity this disorder takes place in a warm climate may be seen in the account of it by Celsus, lib. iv. cap. 2.

name,

name, Hemicrania, (or, according to ſome writers, Hemicranium,) which is particularly obſtinate and diſtreſſing.* The Hemicrania is only felt on one ſide of the head: it affects ſome females at the period of the ceſſation of the catamenia; is often the conſequence of external injuries to the head, and often of ſlight effuſions on the brain of water, blood, &c. from internal cauſes: in ſome perſons it is connected with diſeaſes of the eye, in others with an irregular action, or ſome organic affection of the heart.

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* Alterutram partem, dextram vel ſiniſtram duntaxat, exquiſitè, ac ſi caput per medium diviſum eſſet, ſi infeſtet dolor, Hemicrania vocatur; quæ a temporum pulſatione fere incipit, et ad futuram ſagittalem, caput per medium longitudinis dividentem, protenditur, et per circuitus tertianos vel quartanos, quod tertio, vel quarto die redire ſoleant dictos, fere ægrum exercet: eſt et alia ſpecies, quæ ſtata hora, ſingulis diebus, cum dolore lancinante, in anguſtâ aliquâ ſede calvariæ, ſæpe per aliquot ſeptimanas, ægrum miſere torquere ſolet: quâ et ego jam bis circa ſupercilium oculi dextri obrutus, et per aliquot ſeptimanas excruciatus fui. Plateri De Cap. dolore 3. Compare Alex. Tralliah. lib. i. cap. 12. Paul. Æginet. De Re Medica, lib. iii. cap. 5. Actuar. Meth. Med. lib. vi. cap. 2: Gorræi Defin. Med. and Cheſneau, Obſ. Med. 1. Foreſti Obſ. lib. ix. Hoffman, tom. i. and ii. Conſult. et Reſponſ. med. &c.

Dr.

Dr. Fothergill makes the following remarks on Head-ache, March, 1753: "About the "middle of the month, divers complained "of unuſual Head-aches, attended with fe- "veriſh ſymptoms, which were often very "alarming at the firſt attack, but ſoon "ſubſided. They complained firſt of pain "or ſtiffneſs in the neck, with darting pains "about the temples, and ſo acute as often- "times to raiſe the pulſe and heat conſi- "derably. The external parts of the head "grew ſore, and, to ſuch a degree, as it was "painful to reſt it on the pillow. Now "and then the pains remitted an hour or "two, and again returned with their former "violence; but the whole abated in three "or four days, and gradually wore off, "leaving, however, a ſort of uneaſineſs "about the head, which the patients com- "monly compared to a cap of lead, or ſome "heavy ſubſtance, incloſing it. Moderate "bleeding or cupping, bliſters, nitre, joined "with volatiles, in ſmall doſes, and given "often, were ordered to ſeveral under theſe "complaints with advantage."

Vertigo, with or without head-ache, occurs more eſpecially during the ſummer months: it forms a part of the aſthenic ſtate,

deſcribed page 53, but is often a tranſitory effect of expoſure to hot ſunſhine, or of a ſtrong heat reflected from brick walls, glaſs windows, &c. It likewiſe affects perſons cloſely confined to occupations requiring a fixed and minute attention, as engravers, painters, engroſſers, compoſitors, watch-makers, milliners, lace-ſpanglers, &c. many of whom add to the complaint by burning charcoal in their work-rooms. The Vertigo ariſes from many other cauſes, and under a variety of circumſtances*: but, in the preſent work, I have chiefly to note its proportion to other diſeaſes, conſidering it as the effect of climate or ſeaſon. In this point of view Dr. Fothergill's obſervations upon it, Aug. 1753, ſeem very applicable: "Many, during this "month, have complained of diſorders in "the head, before the rains, about the "middle of the month eſpecially. Some "had a dizzineſs to ſuch a degree as to "render it almoſt dangerous to walk abroad: "others had acute pains affecting one part "of the head only, as the forehead, or down "one ſide, with great languors, ſickneſs, "and a quick, ſmall pulſe: in ſeveral of

* Hoffman, tom. iii. cap. 3.

"theſe,

" theſe, after a few days, the diſorder be-
" came intermittent, and was eaſily re-
" moved by the bark. Indeed, moſt of the
" acute diſeaſes, that have occurred in this
" period, have diſcovered a tendency this
" way; the head being very much afflicted
" during the paroxyſm, not ſo much with
" violent pain as with great confuſion and
" dizzineſs, ſo far as to be unable to raiſe
" it from the pillow without ſuffering
" greatly. Bleeding moderately, at firſt,
" with an emetic as ſoon as convenient, the
" ſaline draughts during the paroxyſm, and
" the bark in ſubſtance given plentifully in
" the intervals, ſoon removed the complaints
" in many inſtances. Bliſters gave no re-
" lief, but moſt commonly brought on very
" violent ſtranguries, which ſeems to be their
" uſual effect in ſummer and in autumnal
" diſeaſes more than in thoſe of the ſpring."

The diſorder often put down under the title of Palpitatio has been noticed and properly deſcribed by our countryman Dr. Willis*: " Palpitatio eſt cordis motus ſive
" pulſus inordinatus, qui adeò vehemens, et

* De Medic. Operat. ſec. vi. cap. 3. Compare Hoffman, tom. iii. ſec. 2, cap. 1.

" immanis interdum exiſtit, ut non ſolum " tactu manifeſtiùs percipi, verum et oculis " conſpici, immo interdum ad diſtans " quoddam audiri poſſit. Porrò ab autoribus " fide dignis narratur, a vehementiore cordis " vibratione, et coſtarum percuſſione eas " interdum effringi; aut in junioribus foras " propelli, protuberanteſque manere." This diſeaſe originates from ſome local impediments to the circulation, as ſtated by Willis, Hoffman, and others. In four caſes, examined after death under my own inſpection, it had been occaſioned by an enlargement of the heart, with a thickening of its ſubſtance, and an adheſion to the pericardium. The conſtant and violent beating of the heart produces a variety of anxious and painful ſenſations, cough, dyſpnœa, with reſtleſſneſs or loſs of ſleep, a querulous, impatient temper, and irregular conduct. The complaint in ſome terminates by ſudden death; in others it arrives at the ſame end by the ſlow progreſs of hectic, dropſy, purpura, and gangrenous ulcers of the extremities. Under the preſent article I will juſt mention the diſeaſe termed Angina pectoris, which, in all the inſtances I have had an opportunity of examining, proceeded from

ſome

ſome organic affection: it may, however, be ſuppoſed to ariſe occaſionally from a deficient irritability of the heart, in conſequence of which this prime mover through the body, oppreſſed by too much exerciſe, or by the influence of unruly paſſions, is diſpoſed to ſtop, or at leaſt to faulter greatly in its action. Both the Angina pectoris, and that ſpecies of Palpitation which originates from an enlargement of the heart, may often depend on original ſtructure, or a prediſpoſition hereditarily communicated, ſince both of them are found to affect many individuals of the ſame family, a circumſtance I have frequently had occaſion to remark.

Epilepſy has nearly the ſame prediſpoſition, but is often immediately excited by ſome local preſſure on the brain from tumours, exoſtoſes, &c. alſo from ſome irregularity in the arrangement of the bones of the cranium, and even from a mal-conformation of the cheſt.

The Chorea, or St. Vitus's Dance, takes place in very delicate and irritable conſtitutions, and is uſually attended with a quick, feeble, and irregular pulſe. In two caſes examined after death, from two to four ounces of clear lymph were found in the

ventricles of the brain, and about the ſame quantity within the pericardium. It will therefore appear that the antient practice in this diſeaſe, by repeated bleeding and purgatives, muſt be generally injurious. A caſe inſerted by myſelf in the London Medical Journal, vol. vii. may ſeem to contradict the above aſſertion; but it is juſt and proper now to ſay that I met with the fate of other haſty caſe-writers. Before the volume ſucceeding it was circulated, my patient had a ſecond relapſe, and was at length cured by a very different plan.

In the caſe of Lethargy the ſame ſymptoms appeared as in the firſt ſpecies of this complaint, deſcribed by Dr. Willis.* The patient was a female nearly ſixty years of age; ſhe gradually loſt her activity, and all reliſh both for food and ſociety; became dull and

* De Animâ Brutorum. Cap. iii. De Lethargo. Qui morbo iſto laborare dicuntur, aut magno ejus inſultu planè decumbentes, in tantum ſopore obruuntur, ut vix ab ullâ ſenſibili objecti impreſſione excitari queant: quin a punctione aut vellicatione acriori, ſi forſan oculos aperiunt, aut membra ſurrigunt, denuò ſtatim inſenſiles facti reclinant, et non rarò, cum ſibimetipſis relinquuntur, ſomno perpetuo indulgentes, tranſitione facillimâ, mortem ipſam, quam in ejus ſimulatu, haud abeunt.

heavy;

heavy; and, at length, fell into a ſtate of permanent ſleep, from which ſhe could not be awaked without great difficulty, and then her attention could ſcarcely be commanded for a moment: the little nouriſhment applied was alſo taken without ſenſibility: her pulſe was from 50 to 58; her tongue was dry, brown, and as it were wrinkled, but without any fur upon it. It was at laſt impoſſible to rouſe her by any ſtimuli, and, a few days after, the actions of life ceaſed. She remained in the ſtate of torpor, on the whole, twenty-ſix days. The ſlow and languid circulation of the blood, peculiar to this diſeaſe,* occaſions a gradual effuſion of water upon the ſurface of the brain, and into its ventricles. Death is the effect of preſſure from the accumulated fluid.

The Lethargy is not a frequent diſeaſe among our own countrymen. I have ſeen it moſtly in Jews, and other aliens of a dark, ſwarthy complexion, who ſometimes lie ſix

* Ει δε πανυ ασθενως εχοντες, και πανυ κρατουμενοι, ουδε ὁλως υπακουουσιν, ουδε κινουσι τα βλεφαρα, και τους σφυγμους αραιους, και μικρους, και αμυδρους ισχουσιν. Alexander Trallian. lib. i. cap. 14.

or eight weeks in the torpid, inſenſible ſtate above deſcribed.

General Bill of Mortality for the Year 1799.

Abortive and Still-born	580	Fevers of all kinds	1784
Abſcefs	27	Fiſtula	3
Aged	1343	Flux	5
Ague	3	French Pox	23
Apoplexy, and ſuddenly	249	Gout	91
Aſthma and Phthiſic	663	Gravel, Stone, and Strangury	11
Bedridden	2	Grief	4
Bleeding	16	Headmouldſhot, Horſeſhoe-head, and Water in the head	76
Burſten and Rupture,	20	Jaundice	78
Cancer	48	Jaw locked	1
Child-bed	131	Impoſthume	1
Colds	14	Inflammation	433
Colic, Gripes, and Twiſting of the Guts	8	Itch	2
Conſumption	4843	Leproſy	1
Convulſions	3794	Livergrown	10
Cough and Hooping Cough	451	Lunatic	307
Cramp	1	Meaſles	223
Croup	16	Miſcarriage	3
Diabetes	1	Mortification	226
Dropſy	906	Palpitation of the heart	2
Ear-ache	1	Palſy	105
Eaten by Lice	1	Pleuriſy	14
Evil	5	Quinſy	1
		Raſh	1
		Rheumatiſm	3

Scurvy

Scurvy	3	Exceſſive Drinking	5
Small-pox	1111	Executed	12
Sore-throat	12	Found Dead	10
Sores and Ulcers	11	Fractured	2
Spaſm	2	Frightened	2
Stoppage in the ſtomach	11	Frozen	2
St. Vitus's Dance	1	Killed by Falls and ſeveral other Accidents	64
Swine-pox	2	Killed themſelves	28
Teeth	335	Murdered	3
Thruſh	35	Poiſoned	6
Worms	11	Scalded	2
Bit by a Mad Dog	2	Shot	1
Broken Limbs	4	Smothered	1
Bruiſed	2	Starved	4
Burnt	13	Suffocated	7
Drowned	99		

Chriſtened	Males	10087	18,970.
	Females	8883	
Buried	Males	9046	18,134.
	Females	9088	

Whereof have died under two years of age 5211; between two and five 1790; five and ten 644; ten and twenty 573; twenty and thirty 1299; thirty and forty 1724; forty and fifty 1924; fifty and ſixty 1758; ſixty and ſeventy 1565; ſeventy and eighty 1125; eighty and ninety 456; ninety and a hundred 63; and a hundred and one 2.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 20th of December, 1799, to the 15th of March, 1800.

List of the Cases which occurred in my own Practice.

ACUTE DISEASES.

EPIDEMIC Catarrh	106
Contagious, malignant Fever	68
Scarlatina anginosa	15
Measles	9
Hooping Cough	5
Small-pox	4
Acute Rheumatism	20
Rheumatic Pain of the face	8
Inflammation of the lungs	11
Pleurisy	2
Inflammation of the eyes	4
Inflammatory Sore-throat	6
Inflammation of the bowels	3
Gout	4
Hæmoptoë	5
Epistaxis	2

Intestinal

Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	6
Renal Hæmorrhagy	2
Menorrhagia	6
Abortion	2
Child-bed Fever	7
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	27
Slow Fever	4
Aphthous Fever	6
Quartan	2
Tertian	2
Hectica	10

CHRONIC DISEASES.

Cough and Dyſpnœa	152
Pulmonary Conſumption	46
Chronic Rheumatiſm	20
Lumbago	4
Sciatica	3
Dropſy	15
Aſthenia	38
Palſy	6
Spaſms of the lower extremities,	2
Spaſms of the fore-arm	1
Vertigo and Head-ache	12
Epilepſy	2
Hydrocephalus	4

Hyſteria	3
Melancholia	2
Palpitatio	3
Dyſpepſia	35
Gaſtrodynia	19
Enterodynia	19
Bilious vomiting	7
Diarrhœa	26
Obſtipatio and Colic	6
Chloroſis	22
Fluor albus	5
Scirrhus uteri	2
Scirrhus of the liver	2
Prolapſus	2
Gravel and Dyſury	8
Incontinence of urine	6
Hæmorrhoids	3
Jaundice	14
Worms	2
Tabes meſenterica	7
Struma	8
Bronchocele	1
Tooth Raſh	3
Lichen	5
Prurigo	6
Lepra	2
Scaly Tetter	4
Pityriaſis	3

Erythema

Erythema	3
Purpura	1
Thruſh	4
Herpes	2
Shingles	1
Ecthyma	2
Itch	5
Impetigo	4
Porrigo	7
Lupus	3
Gutta Roſea	3
Furunculi	2

Pulmonic diſeaſes were almoſt univerſal, and particularly ſevere in the months of January and February. During the latter month there occurred an epidemic Catarrh, chiefly affecting children, and attended with nearly the ſame ſymptoms as the Catarrh in February, 1797 (See page 76). This diſeaſe, although violent for ſome days, did not, in any inſtance, prove fatal.* Since the beginning of March,

* This complaint was, by many practitioners, improperly termed an Influenza. The latter diſeaſe is infectious, and, when it does occur, is general. Its progreſs and ſymptoms

March, inflammatory and hæmorrhagic complaints have been very prevalent. In the caſes of Pleuriſy and Peripneumony, venæſection was employed more than once, before the acute pain and ſenſe of conſtriction about the cheſt could be relieved.

The ſhort froſt in December, though it gave a check, was not ſufficient wholly to arreſt the progreſs of the Scarlatina anginoſa, and malignant Fever, the extent and fatality of which were formerly noticed. During the mild, open weather in January, and at the beginning of February, the Fever was again rapidly diffuſed to a very great extent, and with an aggravated train of ſymptoms. Among the poor, the mortality from this cauſe was very conſiderable, notwithſtanding the attentive adminiſtration of proper articles of diet, and of ſuitable remedies, with plenty of wine. The good effects of all theſe applications are often ſuperſeded by the mi-

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ſymptoms in 1782 and 1788, the years of its laſt viſitations here, are accurately recorded in the firſt volume of "Medical Communications," and in the "London Me-
"dical Journal for 1788." Dr. Sydenham has given a minute account of a ſimilar epidemic, at the cloſe of the laſt century, in his Schedula monitoria de nova Febris ingreſſu.

ſerable

ſerable accommodations of the poor, with reſpect to bedding, and by a total neglect of ventilation in their narrow, crowded dwellings. It will ſcarcely appear credible, though it is preciſely true, that perſons of the loweſt claſs do not put clean ſheets on their beds three times a year; that, even where no ſheets are uſed, they never waſh or ſcour their blankets and coverlets, nor renew them till they are no longer tenable; that curtains, if unfortunately there ſhould be any, are never cleaned, but ſuffered to continue in the ſame ſtate till they drop to pieces: laſtly, that from three to eight individuals, of different ages, often ſleep in the ſame bed; there being, in general, but one room, and one bed, for each family. To the above circumſtances may be added, that the room occupied is either a deep cellar, almoſt inacceſſible to the light, and admitting of no change of air; or a garret, with a low roof and ſmall windows, the paſſage to which is cloſe, kept dark in order to leſſen the window-tax, and filled not only with bad air, but with putrid, excremental, or other abominable effluvia from a vault at the bottom of the ſtair-caſe. Waſhing of linen, or ſome other diſagreeable buſineſs, is carried on, while infants are left

dozing,

dozing, and children more advanced kept at play whole days on the tainted bed: ſome unſavoury victuals are from time to time cooked: in many inſtances idleneſs, in others, the cumbrous furniture, or utenſils of trade with which the apartments are clogged, prevent the ſalutary operation of the broom and white-waſhing bruſh, and favour the accumulation of a heterogeneous, fermenting filth.* From all theſe cauſes combined there is neceſſarily produced a complication of fœtor, to deſcribe which would be as vain an attempt, as for thoſe to conceive who have been always accuſtomed to neat and comfortable dwellings.

The above account is not exaggerated: for the truth of it I appeal to the medical

* The rooms do not change their condition till they change their tenants: often, indeed, ſo little care is taken, that enough of the contagion remains to infect all the inmates who ſucceſſively occupy the ſame premiſes. I recollect a houſe in Wood's Cloſe, Clerkenwell, wherein the fomites of Fever were thus preſerved for a ſeries of years: at length, an accidental fire cleared away the nuiſance. A houſe, notorious for dirt and infection, near Clare-market, afforded a farther proof of negligence; it was obſtinately tenanted till the wall and floors, giving way in the night, cruſhed to death the miſerable inhabitants.

practitioners,

ractitioners, whoſe ſituation or humanity as led them to be acquainted with the retched inhabitants of ſome ſtreets in t. Giles's pariſh, of the courts and alleys ljoining to Liquorpond-ſtreet, Hog-iſland, urnmill-ſtreet, Saffron-hill, Old-ſtreet, hite-Croſs-ſtreet, Grub-ſtreet, Golden-ne, the two Brick-lanes, Roſemary-lane, etticoat-lane, Lower Eaſt Smithfield, ſome urts of Upper Weſtminſter, and ſeveral reets of Southwark, Rotherhithe, &c.

It cannot be wondered at, that, in ſuch uations, Contagious Diſeaſes ſhould be rmed, and attain their higheſt degree of rulence. The inhabitants of the ſecond ory, in houſes occupied by the poor, are ually better accommodated; and therefore perience, during ſickneſs of any kind, the ſt effect from public and private charities. at perſons thus ſtationed ſuffer from con-guity, and from their friendly attentions to oſe above them, or to the tenants of the llars; ſo that, in whatever part of the uſe a Fever commences, it is ſoon diffuſed ong all the inmates and their occaſional itors, eſpecially in ſeaſons which favour progreſs, like the laſt autumn and winter. ildren, and women conſtantly reſiding in infected

infected apartments, ſeem to get habituated to the action of the fomites. Men and boys, by means of freſh air, and the exerciſe of the day, ſhake off the effects of the virus, and eſcape long unhurt. It muſt, however, be obſerved, that, if through taking cold, or any other cauſe, they ſhould be confined to the houſe for ſome days, they aſſuredly take the Fever. So it happened in the late unfavourable ſeaſon: whoever was obliged to keep his bed for a Catarrh, Pleuriſy, or Inflammation of the lungs, within three or four days caught the Fever; and almoſt every one ſo affected died. The children are infected from the new ſource of contagion; and the mother, after cloſing the eyes of her huſband, and, perhaps, of more than one of her offſpring, ſinks exhauſted with grief, watching, and fatigue, being herſelf the laſt victim to the diſeaſe. It is a melancholy conſideration that, in London and its vicinity, hundreds, perhaps thouſands, of labourers, heads of families, and in the prime of life, are thus conſigned to periſh annually, being often ſo ſituated that medical applications, or cordial diet, cannot in any wiſe alleviate their diſtreſs. Perſons in the higher ranks of life are much endangered

cured by the thoughtleſſneſs of ſervants, who privately viſit their ſick friends in infected rooms, and alſo carry thither the children entruſted to their care. Another circumſtance, by no means conſolatory, is, that linen, and other apparel, ſent to laundreſſes in cloſe parts of the town, muſt ſometimes return to families thoroughly impregnated with the effluvia of putrid Fever, Scarlatina, ſmall-pox, Hooping Cough, or Dyſentery.

But where is a remedy to be found for ſo many evils? — Hoſpitals are either barred againſt the entrance of contagious diſeaſes, or, if leave of entrance be obtained, it generally comes when the patient is incapable of being removed, there being but one day throughout the week in which he can be admitted, unleſs by ſome very particular intereſt. Pecuniary aid, whether tranſmitted by the warm heart of benevolence, or wrenched from the ſlow, reluctant hand of parochial adminiſtrators,* is an inſufficient

* I do not intend this as a general cenſure on parish-officers: many do their duty conſcientiouſly; but I have been mortified and indignant at the coldneſs with which ſome of them receive information of the moſt complicated miſery, and at their poſitive refuſal to inſpect the diſtreſs, however ſtrongly repreſented.

palliative

palliative for the preſent caſe. Shall the unhappy patient then ſeek for refuge in the pariſh workhouſe? Alas! the Fever is already making its ravages there.* — What therefore is to be done? — All theſe miſchiefs admit of ready alleviation, and might, with proper management, be removed at a moderate expenſe. Let Houſes of Recovery be eſtabliſhed in open, airy ſituations, at ſome diſtance from other buildings, but adjoining to different diſtricts of the metropolis; to be ſupported either at the joint expenſe of the ſeveral pariſhes within each diſtrict, or by a voluntary ſubſcription among its principal inhabitants. As ſoon as any perſon exhibits ſymptoms of a Fever from infection, let him be inſtantly removed into the Houſe of Recovery, where, being waſhed, and put, with clean linen, into a freſh bed, he will ſoon be freed from his complaints, and able to rejoin his wife and family. To them, in the mean time, a loan of bedding ſhould be made till their own bed is cleanſed, and till the walls and floor are waſhed or ſcoured.

* This has taken place in very many of the workhouſes during the winter; ſeveral of the attending ſurgeons died, and others have ſuffered ſeverely from the Fever.

The

The revenue neceſſary to ſupport houſes inſtituted on ſuch a plan is not ſo great as might be imagined. Both the utility and expenſe of them have been already put to a noble trial by the merchants and manufacturers of the populous town of Mancheſter. Their example deſerves to be followed in this metropolis, and all other great cities; the neceſſity of a receptacle for contagious Fevers being always proportioned to the magnitude of the place. The ſame receptacles might occaſionally ſerve for the relief of aſthmatic, conſumptive, and other pulmonic diſeaſes, which predominate, or are aggravated, at a ſeaſon when Fevers are nearly extinct. One-fourth, and, in very unfavourable ſeaſons, one-third of all the deaths in London, is, according to the Bills of Mortality,* cauſed by diſeaſes of the lungs; a circumſtance which ſurely merits ſome conſideration.

* There died in London, of Pulmonic diſeaſes,

In 1796, 5910 out of 18,238.
In 1797, 5439 out of 16,714.
In 1799, 6210 out of 17,285.

The articles of ſtill-born and abortive, of violent deaths and caſualties, are neceſſarily excluded from the liſt. [See page 84-6.]

Theſe

Theſe complaints are univerſally, and perhaps with reaſon, excluded from hoſpitals: they require a free circulation of pure air, and admit of little relief where patients are confined to ſmall rooms in cloſe, narrow courts and alleys. Pulmonic diſeaſes, however, although ſo fatal in themſelves, extend no farther than the individuals affected with them; whereas the Scarlet Fever, malignant Fever, and malignant Sore-throat, through the medium of infectious fomites, endanger the health and peace of the whole community. Such diſeaſes, therefore, ſhould be the more immediate object of attention: and I have thought it my duty, after obſerving ſo great a mortality, to ſound an alarm to our fellow-citizens; to ſtate the origin, cauſes, and rapid diffuſion, at ſome ſeaſons, of putrid, infectious diſeaſes; and to point out the means of preventing the calamities and devaſtation annually cauſed in an uſeful claſs of people, and extended from them to the ſuperior ranks.

Having given my ſentiments, and the reſult of my own knowledge, on the ſubject, I cannot but do juſtice to thoſe who firſt carried into execution the plan above recommended, and to others who, probably before me,

me, have thought it applicable to the ſtate of the poor in London. It is, therefore, with ſatisfaction, I refer to Dr. Ferriar's Medical Eſſays; and to a tranſcript from them, with other original obſervations, publiſhed in the reports of the Society for bettering the condition of the poor, by the unwearied philanthropiſt Thomas Bernard, Eſq. treaſurer of the Foundling-Hoſpital. As the example of the inhabitants of Manchester has been already followed in other places; we may hope a ſimilar plan will ſoon be adopted in every conſiderable town through the Britiſh empire.*

* Mr. Bernard has been aſſiſted, in his endeavours to promote the Inſtitution here recommended, by William Waddington, Eſq. Treaſurer of the Public Diſpenſary, and by ſeveral other gentlemen of the higheſt reſpectability. It affords me pleaſure to add, that a more minute ſtatement of the ſituation of the poor than I have given, with a plan for Houſes of Recovery, in the vicinity of London, has been drawn up by my friend and colleague Dr. T. A. Murray, and is now publiſhing under the ſanction of the patriotic ſociety above-mentioned.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 15th of March to the End of June.

List of the FEBRILE DISEASES which occurred in my own Practice.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever	83
Hooping Cough	7
Dyſentery	5
Scarlatina	13
Meaſles	11
Small-pox	8
Chicken-pox	1
Acute Rheumatiſm	16
Catarrh	44
Cephalalgia*	6
Ophthalmia	6
Otalgia	2
Inflammatory Sore-throat	7
Erythematic Sore-throat	5
Aphthous Sore-throat	3
Pleuriſy	1
Peripneumony	10

* Sauvages, Noſol. Med. cl. vii. ord. ii. gen. xi. ſp. 1, 3, 5, 10, 11.

Enteritis

Enteritis	3
Nephritis	1
Cyſtitis	1
Eryſipelas	1
Roſeola	2
Urticaria febrilis	1
Gout	5
Apoplexy	3
Hydrocephalus	8
Mania	2
Hæmoptoë	8
Hæmatemeſis	2
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	3
Abortus and Menorrhagia	12
Ephemera	4
Summer Fever	6
Diarrhœa	12
Cholera	1
Slow Fever	9
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	9
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	41
Quotidian	1
Tertian	1
Hectic	10
Hemicrania	2
Pleurodyne intermittens	1

From the 15th of March, to the end of the month, the wind was moſtly ſouth-eaſt and ſouth-ſouth-eaſt; in April, weſt and north-weſt, but, after ſun-ſet, frequently north-eaſt. In May and June the wind was remarkably variable. Through the whole ſeaſon there was frequent, but ſmall rain, with a very irregular temperature, the range of the thermometer being, in March and April, from 32° to 62°; in May and June, from 43° to 75°.

The malignant Fever greatly predominated over the uſual ſeries of vernal diſeaſes. With theſe it was occaſionally complicated, and, in moſt caſes, produced a remarkable degree of coma and ſtupor; yet its fatality was not ſo conſiderable as in the autumnal months, bordering on winter. [See page 235.]

The Hooping Cough was particularly ſevere; the Meaſles, and Scarlatina, moderate in their ſymptoms: only two caſes of the latter terminated fatally. Caſes of Hæmoptoë, Pneumonic Inflammation, Enteritis, with ſome other inflammatory complaints, were very violent; and about one-third of them fatal.

Diarrhœa often takes place when perſpiration is ſuddenly checked by the interchanges of heat

heat and cold in ſpring, or autumn. It is attended with ſlight ſhiverings during the day, with a burning heat of the ſkin at night, with pain of the back, thirſt, a quick pulſe, whiteneſs of the tongue, and loſs of appetite. Theſe ſymptoms continue from four to eight days: many perſons are affected with them under circumſtances wherein others, of a different conſtitution, would have a Coryza, or Catarrh. The alvine diſcharges are numerous, large, and watery, but without much pain. In autumn, this complaint frequently aſſumes the form of the Dyſentery; in the ſpring but ſeldom. I muſt, however, obſerve, that, in March, April, and part of May laſt, the diſeaſe was protracted beyond the uſual limits, and terminated with ſevere gripings and teneſmus, with diſcharges of blood, mucus, and ſanies. One caſe of Cholera occurred the laſt week in May, with a profuſe diſcharge of green bile from the ſtomach and bowels, and with violent cramps of the lower extremities, but was relieved in two or three days.

Caſes of acute Hydrocephalus, as it has been deſcribed by Dr. Quin* of Dublin,

* Treatiſe on the Dropſy of the Brain, page 34.

occur, from time to time, in this place: but I never met with ſo many caſes nearly together as during the preſent ſpring. All the patients were children from two to twelve years of age. They were at firſt affected with the uſual ſymptoms of fever, complained of violent head-ache, and of pains in the limbs, had frequent returns of nauſea, and diſcharged much bile from the ſtomach, while the bowels ſeemed inactive, and ſometimes inſenſible to the action of the ſtrongeſt purgatives. In five or ſix days moſt of the febrile ſymptoms diſappeared; the tongue was moiſt, the pulſe became ſlow and languid; the vomiting ceaſed: there was, however, a conſtant delirium, when the patients were roufed out of the oppreſſive ſtupor to which they had always a diſpoſition. Being awakened, they appeared unconſcious of ſurrounding perſons or objects: their pupils were greatly dilated, and the axes of their eyes turned in different directions: they ſwallowed drink unwillingly, or with difficulty, and were only anxious to return to darkneſs and repoſe. Their diſlike to the light, or any diſturbance, was marked by immediate complaints, or fretfulneſs; often by loud and diſſonant ſcreams. As the diſeaſe advanced,

the

the pulſe became again quick and unequal: in one caſe there was a paralyſis of the right ſide; in two others, the irregular motions of the limbs, termed St. Vitus's Dance, took place at the ſecond alteration of the pulſe, and continued till within a day or two of the patients' death. Three patients out of the eight recovered, two about the eighteenth day of the diſorder, the third, an infant, at the end of the fifth week, after having been long abandoned to its fate: the brother of this infant, ſix years old, died on the thirtieth day. Perpetual bliſters on the head, leeches, in ſome caſes mercurial frictions, in others calomel frequently repeated, ſeemed to be the moſt efficacious remedies. The remaining four, whoſe diſorder was fatal, died between the twelfth and twenty-ſixth day of it. The body of one of them, a girl, ten years of age, was examined after death. Her brain was firm, and of a proper colour, but the veins on its ſurface were much diſtended. Two ounces of lymph, or ſomewhat more, had been effuſed into the ventricles: the ſame quantity was found in the pericardium; and not leſs than two pints of clear fluid were lodged in the cavity of the cheſt. There was no morbid appearance, which deſerves to be

mentioned, in the ſtate or contents of the bowels. [See the report on Chorea, &c. for November, 1799.]

The complaint above-deſcribed ſhould be diſtinguiſhed from the ſymptomatic Hydrocephalus, which often takes place, with very ſimilar ſymptoms, after the criſis of malignant Fevers; during the Hectica infantilis (See page 19); and in ſome other acute diſeaſes of children, particularly the febrile ſtate produced by dentition, worms, and diſorders of the bowels, or meſentery. Caſes of this kind are uſually removed, within a week or two, by the uſe of calomel or other active purgatives, and bliſters; and ſometimes by the remedies mentioned page 226.

Dr. Quin has properly given a diſtinct conſideration to the ſlow or chronic* ſpecies of Hydrocephalus, which is attended with a gradual enlargement of the head during infancy, and continues for a ſeries of years.

Caſes of Apoplexy muſt always be numerous in large cities, where the prediſpoſition to them is ſeconded by the exciting cauſes moſt likely to give it effect, viz. in-

* Page 14 to 18.

temperance,

temperance, fatigue of body, too ſtrong exertions of mind, and every paſſion that agitates the human frame. The ſanguineous Apoplexy is, however, ſometimes a diſeaſe connected with ſeaſon; as ſuch, it uſually takes place about the beginning of ſummer, and may be ſoon relieved by bleeding, cupping, bliſters, and evacuants, along with a proper diet. A ſimilar mode of treatment would apply to the diſeaſe when produced by exceſs in eating, and by violent fits of paſſion; but caſes of this kind often prove fatal before any relief can be adminiſtered. Another ſpecies of Apoplexy, which affects perſons of a weakly conſtitution, who are pale, thin, and emaciated, who have been depreſſed by ſorrow or misfortune, though it ſeldom occaſion inſtantaneous death, may yet render the remainder of life burthenſome, by diſabling the limbs, and enfeebling the memory. Under ſuch circumſtances, whether we ſuppoſe congeſtion of blood and effuſion of lymph to take place from a languid, irregular circulation, or the communication between the blood-veſſels and nerves to ceaſe partially from a ſtill higher degree of debility, it will be manifeſt that the remedies above-mentioned, at leaſt that large or re-

peated bleeding, with the uſe of emetics, purgatives, &c. muſt be injurious, if not ſometimes fatal.* I have ſeen young perſons, from twelve to eighteen years of age, affected with Apoplexy and Hemiplegia: ſuch inſtances are rare, yet they have induced many obſervers to maintain that Apoplectic and Paralytic complaints are beginning of late to encroach on every period of human life, and that they are much more numerous than in former times. On comparing Dr. Fothergill's obſervations, made half a century ago,† with the reſult of my own experience, I do not find that there is any ſufficient ground for this opinion: however, the Bills of Mortality, if we go back a hundred years, declare in its favour, as will appear by the following table:

* Dr. Fothergill's remarks on this ſubject merit attention; but, while enforcing a mode of treatment, at the time peculiar to himſelf, he ſeems to leave us in doubt whether he would have preſcribed blood-letting in any apoplectic caſe whatever. See "Obſervations on Weather and Diſeaſes," February, March, May, July, 1753; March, July, 1754. Alſo "Medical Obſervations and Inquiries," vol. vi.

† See below the Bills of Mortality for the middle of the century.

Years.

Years.	Died of Apoplexy, and suddenly.	Died of Palsy.	Total Mortality.
1696	109	17	18,638
1697	117	27	20,970
1698	116	21	20,183
1699	106	24	20,795
1796	225	73	19,288
1797	214	99	17,014
1798	224	86	18,155
1799	249	105	18,134

The article of Palsy may have been enlarged for some years past by an increase of the business of house-painters, plumbers, and makers of white lead. This poison affects the constitution in nearly the same order as ardent spirits (See page 133), first with violent pains of the stomach or bowels, and with obstinate costiveness, termed Colica Pictonum.* After repeated fits of the latter, some are affected with swellings about the feet and ancles, as in rheumatic cases; others with burning heat, and tenderness of the soles of the feet, impeding motion, and preventing sleep. Sometimes the limbs are benumbed: the wrists, in particular, lose the power of

* See Dr. Huxham on the Devonshire Colic, page 5.

action; the fingers become uſeleſs and contracted. Thoſe who are often affected with the ſwellings of the joints are leſs liable to the paralytic ſtate of the limbs. In many, the ſight is much impaired; and, when the poiſon has pervaded the whole conſtitution, the patient becomes torpid and inſenſible, as in the Lethargy; (See page 246;) others die in a ſtate of phrenzy, or violent delirium. In the white-lead manufactories, workmen are ſometimes affected in a week or two, ſometimes not for months, or even years. On the firſt ſenſation of pain in the ſtomach, and contraction of the inteſtines, the ſufferers have recourſe to ſpirits, which often have a worſe effect than the original poiſon. The moſt prejudicial operation in making white lead is the ſifting or ſeparating the metallic part. This was formerly done without any precaution, and the room was neceſſarily clouded by the finer particles of the white lead. However, I am happy now to ſtate, that workmen are likely to be no longer diſabled in theſe manufactories, an improvement in the proceſs ſecuring them from the poſſibility of any material injury. Sifting the white lead from the metallic part is, at preſent, conducted under water, which prevents the

particles

particles of the former from being diffuſed in the air. Houſe-painters and plumbers have the ſymptoms in the order juſt now mentioned, and are affected at different periods after application to buſineſs; ſome in a few weeks, ſome not till the third or fourth year: a few, with ſtrong conſtitutions, follow theſe occupations twenty or thirty years, yet neither loſe the motion of their limbs, nor ever experience the Colica Pictonum. The limbs are ſeldom diſabled without very many previous fits of the Colic, and not unleſs the buſineſs has been cloſely purſued from five to ten years or more. It is ſingular that the tongue is never injured, and that the right hand is not more affected than the left. Painters uſually have weak and tender eyes, and are often affected with dimneſs or total loſs of ſight. I am informed that men conſtantly employed to incorporate the white lead with oil loſe, much ſooner than houſe-painters, the uſe of their fingers and wriſts, which can never be reſtored. The pains of the bowels, the ſwellings of the joints, and tenderneſs in the ſoles of the feet, are always greatly aggravated during the ſummer ſeaſon. The proper treatment for the Colica Pictonum is nearly the ſame as that requiſite for the Dyſentery. (See

the next Report.) When the diſeaſe extends to the head and limbs, a warm bath is often found highly advantageous.

The Synochus, in June, was attended with the uſual ſymptoms, and ſeldom of long duration. No regular account of this ſummer diſeaſe has been given by Morton or Sydenham. A Remittent Fever, mentioned in Dr. Fothergill's Obſervations on Weather and Diſeaſes in Auguſt and September, 1753, after a very hot ſummer, ſeems to coincide with the Synochus formerly deſcribed (See page 25): "Remittent "Fevers, with violent head-aches, vomitings, "reſtleſſneſs, faintings, high-coloured urine, "and bilious ſtools, became more frequent, "but not very fatal; the patients bear mo- "derate bleeding well, gentle purgatives of "the ſaline kind, and plentiful diluents: "bliſters are ſeldom indicated: when ap- "plied, they are often injurious, and often "bring on unconquerable ſtranguries, to "which the ſick are many of them prone, "this preſent ſeaſon, where no bliſters have "been applied. And the writer thinks he "has, oftener than in one ſeaſon, found "that bliſters, after hot, dry ſummers, are "injurious in common, and, perhaps, for

"the

" the very reaſons that render them bene-
" ficial, nay, abſolutely neceſſary, in moſt
" kinds of vernal Fevers. In the preſent
" Remittent Fevers, the ſick are diſpoſed to
" copious ſweats, which weaken, but afford
" no relief. Every plentiful evacuation
" ſinks them conſiderably, and eſpecially if
" the diſeaſe is advanced a few days, which
" is mentioned to guard againſt the im-
" prudent, indiſcriminate uſe of a celebrated
" powder, on account of its danger and un-
" certainty."

It is ſingular that this writer does not diſtinguiſh, by any ſpecific name, the autumnal malignant Fever, nor has any where remarked that it ſpreads by contagion. He terms it in one place "Inſidious, rheumatic "Fever" (Nov. 1752); in another place "Slow, continual Fever" (Jan. 1753); in other paſſages "Slow, remittent Fever" (June, 1751); "Slow, remitting, dangerous "Fever" (Oct. 1753); "Slow, treache-" rous, remittent Fever" (Dec. 1753); "Dangerous, remittent Fever" (Auguſt, September, October, November, 1754). He details, however, its characteriſtic ſymptoms with preciſion, and has noted the occaſional appearance of aphthæ, miliary puſ-

tules,

tules, and petechiæ. After various conſiderations, he ſeems at length to decide againſt bleeding in this Fever, a point of practice at that time generally adopted. Sydenham ſlightly mentions contagion as a mode in which Fevers may be propagated. He has formed ſpecies of them rather on fanciful grounds: for, though ſometimes complicated with other diſeaſes, their general appearances are uniform, and ſufficiently characteriſtic.* A Fever, of ſix or eight weeks' duration, attended with heat, pain of the head, delirium, petechiæ, ſweating, and a ptyaliſm perhaps the effect of aphthæ, he calls Febris varioloſa (page 125). His Dyſenteric Fever (page 152) was characterized by bilious diarrhœa, violent pain of the head, a thick, white fur upon the tongue, aphthæ, and occaſional

* The characteriſtics of malignant Fever are given by Sydenham himſelf, with much accuracy, ſec. i. cap. 3; and Proceſſus integri, page 19, cap. 2, De Morbis Epidemicis.

The varieties of Fever, mentioned by him, are ramifications from the original ſtock marked by ſome particular ſymptom: — "Anni, 1667, 1668, Febrim varioloſam, et "Variolas produxerunt: — Anni, 1669, 70, 71, 72, "Febrim dyſentericam: — Anni, 1673, 74, 75, Febrim "comatoſam."

ptyaliſm.

ptyaliſm. The ſame diſeaſe was, according to another account, attended with ſore-throat and rheumatic pains. He alſo diſtinguiſhes a Febris comatoſa (Proceſſus, p. 16), and Febris morbilloſa (page 217), ſuppoſing every continued Fever to take the leading features of its form from ſome other epidemic diſeaſe (page 216). In ſhort, forgetting the effects of contagion, and in what ſituations malignant Fevers are at firſt produced, (See above, page 254-8,) he refers their origin to ſome occult ſtate of the air, wholly unconnected with its ſenſible qualities. "Variæ ſunt "anmorum conſtitutiones, quæ neque calori, "neque frigori, non ſicco humidove ortum "ſuum debent, ſed ab occultâ potiùs et in- "explicabili quadam alteratione in ipſis "terræ viſceribus pendent, undè aër ejuſmodi "effluviis contaminatur, quæ humana cor- "pora huic aut illi morbo addicunt, determi- "nantque." (Sec. i. cap. 2, page 5.)

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 30th of June to the End of Sept.

List of the FEBRILE DISEASES which occurred in my own Practice.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever	83
Small-pox	37
Scarlatina anginoſa	10
Meaſles	7
Chicken-pox	2
Hooping Cough	3
Pemphigus	1
Eryſipelas	2
Acute Rheumatiſm	5
Gout	3
Ophthalmia	5
Inflammatory Sore-throat	5
Erythematic and Aphthous Sore-throat	8
Croup	1
Catarrh	7
Pneumonic Inflammation	9
Inflammation of the bowels	4
Peritoneal Inflammation	2

Hepatitis

Hepatitis	3
Epiſtaxis	2
Apoplexy	2
Hæmoptoë	6
Hæmatemeſis	4
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	3
Abortus, and Menorrhagia	8
Ephemera	5
Cephalalgia	12
Synochus, or Summer Fever	32
Cholera	33
Dyſentery	18
Bilious vomiting, and Diarrhœa,	42
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	55
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	8
Hectic, and Slow Fever	13
Quotidian	2
Tertian	3
Hemicrania	2

The preſent ſummer has been the hotteſt of any within my recollection. From the 2nd of June to the 19th of Auguſt there were fifty-ſeven clear, ſunſhine days. The range of the thermometer was, in July, from 54° to 81°; in Auguſt from 55° to 89°. Out of the ſhade, the heat could not be endured

dured for any length of time: the nights alſo being cloſe and ſultry, the atmoſphere always impregnated with duſt, habitations in London became ſcarcely tenable. Manſions at ſome diſtance from it were not, however, exempt from inconveniences. The trees and ſhrubs were withered by the continued action of the ſun's rays: gardens, plantations, &c. were whitened by duſt from the high roads; and the brown, ſcorched herbage, rendered the appearance of the country deſolate and joyleſs. Infinite ſwarms of inſects infeſted both the ſunſhine and the ſhade: ſome ſpecies of them, not uſually troubleſome, enforced attention from their numbers. Whoever walked out at mid-day, in July, had every white article of dreſs nearly covered with ſmall green Aphides, which could not be bruſhed off without much difficulty. In Auguſt, theſe inſects were of a dark brown colour, and equally numerous: on the morning of the 20th, after a violent ſtorm, I obſerved thouſands of them lying dead in ſtables, and other out-houſes, nor did any appear afterwards.*

Caſes

* Aphis. Roſtrum inflexum: antennæ thorace longiores: alæ quatuor erectæ: pedes ambulatorii: abdomen poſticè ſæpiùs

Caſes of the Synochus, or Summer Fever, were numerous in July and Auguſt: but the only appearances I obſerved, in addition to thoſe already mentioned, (See page 28,) were a frequent eruption of miliary puſtules, with or without a raſh; hæmorrhagy from the noſe; a fixed pain acroſs the eyes; and the ſymptom termed coma vigil. The Meaſles, and Scarlatina, did not commence till September. Inflammatory, rheumatic, and ca-

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lœpius bicorne. Linn. Syſt. Nat. Inſect. Hemiptera, gen. 227. Mr. White, in his Natural Hiſtory of Selborne, mentions a ſudden appearance of theſe inſects, in immenſe ſwarms, obſerved on the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1785: "At about "three o'clock in the afternoon of that day, which was very "hot, the people of the village were ſurpriſed by a ſhower "of Aphides or Smother-flies, which fell in theſe parts. "Thoſe that were walking in the ſtreet, at that juncture, "found themſelves covered with theſe inſects, which "ſettled alſo on the hedges and gardens, blackening all the "vegetables where they alighted. My annuals were diſ-"coloured with them, and the ſtalks of a bed of onions "were quite coated over for ſix days after. Theſe armies "were then, no doubt, in a ſtate of emigration, and ſhift-"ing their quarters; and might have come, as far as we "know, from the great hop-plantations of Kent or Suſſex, "the wind being all that day in the eaſterly quarter. "They were obſerved, at the ſame time, in great clouds, "about Farnham, and all along the Vale from Farnham to "Alton." Page 268.

tarrhal,

tarrhal, affections likewiſe ceaſed during the hot weather, which was almoſt wholly occupied by malignant Fevers and the Small-pox. Fevers from contagion are not, in the greateſt heat of ſummer, attended with the comatoſe ſtate, (mentioned page 231,) but produce, at an early period of their courſe, a wakeful and active delirium, a quick and agitated pulſe, with every ſymptom of violent irritation. The diſeaſe, under ſuch a form, is, in common language, denominated Phrenzy Fever, a title which, I am ſorry to obſerve, medical practitioners occaſionally adopt, and, having adopted it, apply for the caſe a mode of treatment applicable to another diſeaſe. On this ſubject, I beg leave to ſay, that it is injurious to draw much blood from the head by cupping-glaſſes; and that whoever is bled largely from the arm is precipitated to certain death. By a gentle emetic, or laxative at firſt, by the uſe of camphor, with ſmall doſes of tincture of opium, frequently repeated, by waſhing the head with vinegar, and the body, in ſome caſes, with cold water, the patient becomes tractable, recovers his proper feelings, takes food, gets a little ſleep at intervals, and paſſes through the latter ſtages of the diſeaſe often without any ma-

terial

vesial embarraſſment. Contagious, malignant Fevers are ſeldom numerous during the hotteſt part of ſummer: and, ſome years, they wholly diſappear at that ſeaſon. The reaſon of this may be, that rooms are then leſs crouded and better ventilated. That the heat or dryneſs of the air cannot alone produce ſuch an effect,* the preſent ſummer affords a ſufficient proof. The number of infectious Fevers in it has exceeded that in moſt other ſummers, probably becauſe the unfavourable ſeaſon preceding (See pages 229 and 254) had cauſed ſo general a diffuſion of them, that the fomites of contagion, which, through negligence or neceſſity, are always preſerved in the dwellings of the poor, acquired a tenfold degree of virulence by the ſucceſſion of perſons affected, and continued their baneful operation even on ſubjects not otherwiſe prediſpoſed to Fever.

* Contagious Fevers do not often ariſe in very hot climates: hence ſome have thought that contagion is decompoſed or deſtroyed by a great degree of heat. This notion is, however, proved to be erroneous by the rapid communication of the dreadful Fever which has of late nearly deſolated the cities of America, and ſome of the principal ſea-ports in the Weſt-Indies.

The

The Small-pox often ſpreads extenſively in a hot ſeaſon, appearing in the confluent form, attended with petechiæ, livid veſicles, ulcerations of the tongue, palate, throat, &c. and ſucceeded by glandular ſwellings, ulcers often gangrenous, about the thighs, ſcrotum, and knees, puffy tumours of the ſoft parts, enlargement of the bones, ſtiffneſs of the joints, ophthalmia, deafneſs, cough, dyſpnœa, diarrhœa, anaſarca, hydrothorax. This was exemplified in the warm ſummer of 1796 (See pages 38 and 42). The extent of the diſeaſe ſeemed greater, though its fatality was leſs, in the preſent year. According to the Bills of Mortality, there died, of the Small-pox, in May 59 perſons; in June 78; in July 188; in Auguſt 279: in September 576; in October 335; in November 315.

Having given the report of caſes admitted into the Small-pox Hoſpital for 1796 and 1797, (See pages 68 and 140,) I will here put down the numbers admitted in the ſucceeding years. During the year 1798, there were admitted, in the natural Small-pox, 265: inoculated 2322, of whom 3 died. During the year 1799, admitted in the natural Small-pox 181: inoculated 2342, of whom 4 died. From the 1ſt of January to the end of March, 1800,

1800, admitted 35; from the 1ſt of April to the 29th of September, admitted, in the natural Small-pox, 128: inoculated within the ſame period 1133, of whom only 2 died. The caſes of natural Small-pox were ſo virulent, during the hot months, that nearly one-third of them proved fatal.

Few acute diſeaſes, it was before obſerved, made their appearance while the weather continued hot and dry: but, in conſequence of the rain, and ſudden change of temperature, after the 19th of Auguſt, the ſcene was immediately changed, and preſented a new ſeries of epidemic complaints, which took place with an unexampled violence of ſymptoms. The diſorders were Catarrh, Sore-throat, Pleuriſy, Peripneumony, Inflammation of the liver and inteſtines, Agues, Hæmorrhagies, Diarrhœa, Cholera, and, finally, the Dyſentery. The Erythematic Sore-throat is characterized by a ſtrong redneſs of the tonſils, palate, tongue, and back of the fauces; likewiſe of the velum pendulum and uvula, with a conſiderable elongation of them. There is always a weak, quick, and tremulous pulſe, general debility, loſs of appetite, and a morbid degree of ſenſibility as to light, ſounds, &c. The complaint is often

often attended with a dryneſs and ſtoppage of the noſtrils, likewiſe with pain and deafneſs in one or both ears, and with diſcharge of matter from them. It was farther, during the preſent ſeaſon, attended with a ſwelling of the tongue, eſpecially of its under-ſide: patients in this ſituation felt as if the tongue had been wrapped round with cloth or velvet. Some of the caſes terminated by ſlight ſuppuration, others by a diſcharge of lymph, or of lymph mixed with blood. The Erythematic Sore-throat, which is often merely the prelude to the Aphthous Sore-throat formerly deſcribed, is, like it, contagious, and affects perſons who have previouſly had the Scarlatina anginoſa. The proper regimen, for the Erythematic and Aphthous Sore-throat, is ſtated page 113. Leeches, bliſters, antimonials, and purgatives, ſeem detrimental; while, in the former ſpecies at leaſt, the uſe of bark and the mineral acids may be in general adopted with a certainty of relief.

The Cholera was a frequent diſeaſe in September, but particularly ſo after the rains on the 19th and 20th of Auguſt. To a profuſe diſcharge of green bile from the ſtomach and inteſtines, cold ſweats, faintings and hiccough, were ſuperadded moſt painful

cramps

cramps of the muſcles of the lower extremities. The trunk of the body was ſimilarly affected, being jerked from ſide to ſide by ſudden and violent convulſions. Dr. Sydenham has mentioned the ſame circumſtances in Cholera after the hot ſummer of the year 1676. "Exeunte æſtate Cholera Morbus "epidemicè jam ſæviebat, et inſueto tempeſ- "tatis calore evectus, atrociora convulſio- "num ſymptomata, eaque diuturniora ſecum "trahebat quàm mihi priùs unquam videre "contigerat. Nequè enim ſolum abdomen, "uti aliàs in hoc malo, ſed univerſi jam "corporis muſculi, brachiorum crurumque "præ reliquis, ſpaſmis tentabantur diriſſimis, "ita ut æger è lecto ſubindè exiliret, ſi fortè "extenſo quaquaverſum corpore eorum vim "poſſit eludere." Epiſt. 1.

In the caſe of Tetanus, which occurred at the beginning of July, there had not been any accident or local injury whatever. The only previous circumſtance, likely to have contributed towards the formation of the diſeaſe, was diſtreſs of mind. Beſides a complete locking of the jaw, there ſeemed to be a painful rigidity in all the muſcles of the neck, while the head was firmly and permanently retracted. The patient was a fe-

male, thirty-two years of age, in a debilitated ſtate of conſtitution: her pulſe was obſcure and irregular: ſhe had no deſire for nouriſhment; neither could any evacuations be produced from the bowels. After being exhauſted with pain, tremors, watchfulneſs, delirium, and ſtrong perſpirations, ſhe died on the eighth day of the diſeaſe.

The commencement of the Epidemical Dyſentery was ſudden and violent: it took place uſually after ſome imprudent expoſure to cold, or damp air, with moſt excruciating pain at the lower part of the bowels, heat, thirſt, nauſea, vomiting of green bile, perpetual forcing or ſtraining to diſcharge the fœces, with numerous but ſmall evacuations. A conſiderable degree of fever appeared in the worſt caſes, and continued from eight to twelve days: the pulſe was 100 in the morning, and 120 in the evening: all the upper ſurface of the tongue was covered with a whitiſh incruſtation, through which many of the enlarged papillæ ſeemed to penetrate; and the fauces were often of a dark-red colour. The ſtools were liquid, and, at firſt, wholly without fœtor: they were ſometimes clear and gelatinous; ſometimes like ragged pieces of ſkin, or ſtrings of a reddiſh colour, ſuſpended

pended in water; ſometimes conſiſting only of blood having a froth on the ſurface; ſometimes of blood mixed with the other appearances. The conſtant preſſing and exertion to evacuate theſe matters made the rectum exquiſitely painful and tender, cauſed heat and difficulty in making water, and produced ſo great a degree of debility, with faintneſs, that many patients became incapable of uſing a bed-pan, and, therefore, lying motionleſs, diſcharged the fœces on cloths. The pain gradually extended upwards to the ſtomach; the whole abdomen becoming ſore and tenſe, ſo that not the ſlighteſt preſſure could be borne upon it. I ſcarcely ever recollect to have ſeen, in any complaint, a ſtronger expreſſion of agony than this diſorder occaſioned, during the firſt ten days of its courſe. Beſides the increaſe of pain after every ſtool, there was, in ſeveral caſes, a periodical aggravation of it for three or four hours every forenoon. The nights were, at the ſame time, ſleepleſs, feveriſh, and agitated: there was likewiſe a conſtant fluſhing of the face, with coldneſs of the lower extremities. No reſpite from pain and fever was obtained till the uſual fœtor took place in the diſcharges from the bowels. Immediately after this change, a conſiderable

quantity of black, or dark-coloured, fœculent matter, highly offenſive both to the ſight and ſmell, was evacuated. Similar ſtools continued to paſs, at intervals, for ſeveral days: at length the diſcharge became nearly of the uſual colour and conſiſtence; but was occaſionally intermixed with blood, or mucus, when there was alſo a return of griping, teneſmus, &c. The duration of the diſeaſe was, in ſome inſtances, three weeks; in others, five or ſix weeks. When the violent grinding pain ceaſed in the bowels, pains were felt about the upper part of the thighs; ſometimes in the ſhoulders or arms: ſometimes the ſtomach alone was affected with pain periodically. The white fur on the tongue, produced by the primary fever, was, in the ſecond or third week of the diſeaſe, ſucceeded by a ſhining, ſmooth, roſe-coloured appearance, and ſlight tumefaction of the tongue, finally terminating in aphthous ulcerations. A few patients, after all the dyſenteric ſymptoms were removed, became hectical, emaciated, and dropſical, neither recovering appetite nor ſtrength in leſs than ten weeks.

This Epidemic having been deſcribed under its ſevereſt form, it is proper to obſerve, that many

many caſes were much more ſlight, being without fever, and only marked by griping pains at intervals, teneſmus, and numerous liquid ſtools, occaſionally ſtreaked with blood. Such likewiſe are the uſual ſymptoms of the ſporadic Dyſentery, which occurs almoſt every autumn, and of which caſes have been often noted in the foregoing pages. Neither in the preſent, nor at any preceding period, has the Dyſentery in London appeared to be contagious. It affords me ſatisfaction to add, that I never yet ſaw a fatal caſe of it.*

No advantage ſeemed to accrue, in this diſeaſe, from the repeated application of leeches to the abdomen. Fomentations af-

* In a lady, who was very ſeverely affected, and whoſe houſe was adjoining to Spa-Fields, a fatal turn had nearly been given to the complaint, by a circumſtance unuſual at the outſkirt of a populous city. Soon after midnight, a brown owl began to hoot and flap its wings, loudly and violently, on the outſide of her chamber-window, whence it could not be diſlodged without ſome difficulty. The omen was, however, averted, my patient being now reſtored to perfect health. Owls, during their midnight revels in the country, when any ſolitary light appears, as in a ſick room, fly to it, and often invite their fellows thither by loud cries, to the great terror of ſuperſtitious cottagers. London owls, which are brought up tame by gardeners, may be ſuppoſed to have nearly the ſame habits as their ruſtic brethren.

forded no relief, but ſeemed rather to be detrimental. The only mode of mitigating the pains, and ſhortening the duration of the complaint, was by giving, alternately, purgatives and opiates. Of the former, I chiefly employed vitriolated magneſia, oleum ricini, and calomel. Their operation was attended with a great, though temporary, aggravation of pain and ſtraining, inſomuch, that patients could not be induced to take the ſame medicine twice: it was therefore neceſſary either to give them in ſucceſſion, or under different forms. Strong doſes were likewiſe requiſite, in order to produce ſtools of the uſual ſmell and conſiſtence: and, unleſs this effect took place, the patient was made to ſuffer without any advantage. Neither did opiates afford reſt, or the leaſt alleviation of pain, if not preſcribed in the ſtrongeſt form. After a purgative had been adminiſtered, it was neceſſary to give a draught, with twenty or twenty-five drops of the tincture of opium, early in the evening, and to repeat it every three hours, in order to ſecure ſome quiet during the night, and a reſpite from the morning exacerbation. I gave the opiates every night, but ſeldom found that a purgative medicine could be borne oftener than every ſecond or every third day.

In

In the caſes of Hepatitis there was ſome ſwelling, and tenſion, on the right ſide of the abdomen, with a deep-ſeated pain, a ſmall, but not quick, pulſe, great coſtiveneſs, frequent vomiting of green bile, extreme debility and languor, thirſt, and total loſs of appetite. The urine, when firſt made, was of a dark-brown colour, but, after it had ſtood a few hours, depoſited a black ſediment. All the caſes put down terminated fatally. Leeches, bliſters, calomel, effervescing draughts, &c. did not appear to produce any beneficial effect. Indeed, on former occaſions, I have obſerved whenever urine of a blackiſh colour has been united with the train of ſymptoms above-ſtated, whether in Hepatitis or Cholera, the caſes have been always fatal.

Pemphigus, or the Veſicular Fever, is a rare diſeaſe in this country (See page 180–1). The ſolitary inſtance of it, noted in July, was a young woman, about twenty years of age, teacher in a ſchool at Walworth, and of a weakly conſtitution: ſhe had taken ſome mercurial remedies, for a glandular ſwelling, three weeks before her eruptive complaint appeared. It began with a violent heat and itching at one of her elbows: the other was ſoon after affected, when both arms ſwelled

up to the ſhoulder, and, within two days, they were covered with veſications. The veſicles ſoon broke, and diſcharged an acrimonious lymph, which bliſtered where it fell. Similar veſicles aroſe, in a day or two, on the face, the ſcalp, the trunk of the body, the limbs, the palms of the hands, and the ſoles of the feet. They were ſmall and cloſe together, ſo that, after they were broken, nearly the whole cuticle was detached. The fever, and the eruptive ſtage of the diſorder, laſted, on the whole, about eight days. During that time, the patient was weak, irritable, and tremulous, her pulſe being generally 132: ſhe had no appetite, got but little reſt, and was ſometimes delirious. Her face was ſcabbed all over, as in the confluent Small-pox. Before a new cuticle was formed on the trunk of the body, there was a thin incruſtation, which gradually peeled off in dry, yellowiſh ſcales; but a freſh diſcharge and a new incruſtation repeatedly took place. The ſkin of the legs was red and tender, and appeared as if ſtudded with miliary puſtules, which, breaking, diſcharged their lymph, and were ſucceeded by others. At the end of the third week, the ſkin of her fingers and toes came off entire, together with the nails.

Three

Three weeks more elapſed before the cuticle was reſtored ſo that ſhe could ſtir out of her bed. I ſaw her, on the firſt of October, free from complaint: her nails were then renewed; her hair, which had at firſt partly fallen off, was become thicker; the ſkin of her neck, arms, and legs, appeared rough, papulated, and ſcaly, as in a ſlight kind of the Dry Tetter; her eyes remained weak and tender, as they had indeed been from the commencement of the diſorder.

ACCOUNT of DISEASES in LONDON,

From the 30th of Sept. to the 25th of Dec.

Liſt of the FEBRILE DISEASES which occurred in my own Practice.

CONTAGIOUS, malignant Fever	82
Small-pox	14
Scarlatina	8
Meaſles	7
Hooping Cough	1

Eryſipelas	5
Catarrh	66
Acute Rheumatiſm	12
Gout	2
Otalgia	2
Inflammatory Sore-throat	4
Erythematic and Aphthous Sore-throat	7
Pleuriſy	5
Peripneumony	10
Inflammation of the bowels	2
Peritoneal Inflammation	1
Hepatitis	2
Epiſtaxis	1
Apoplexy	1
Hæmoptoë	5
Hæmatemeſis	1
Inteſtinal Hæmorrhagy	2
Abortus, and Menorrhagia	5
Ephemera	3
Cephalalgia	8
Urticaria febrilis	1
Cholera	4
Dyſentery	14
Bilious vomiting, and Diarrhœa,	27
Acute Diſeaſes of Infants	26
Child-bed and Milk Fevers	5

Hectic and Slow Fever	17
Quotidian	2
Tertian	1
Hemicrania	4

The weather, in October and November, was remarkably fine and mild, the wind being generally weſt, north-weſt, or ſouth-weſt, with occaſional ſhowers of rain; the medium altitude of the thermometer about 55°. Accordingly, during ſix weeks, from the beginning of the former month to the middle of the latter, the inhabitants of this city, and its environs, were more free from diſeaſes than has been known, at the ſame ſeaſon, for many years paſt. The Small-pox and Scarlet Fever gradually declined; the Meaſles and Hooping Cough diſappeared. Fevers were leſs numerous, but continued from infection; and the Dyſentery was not ſo extenſive, nor attended, except in a few caſes, with ſymptoms ſo violent as during the month of September. At the latter end of November, and beginning of December, when the temperature of the air frequently varied, there being alternations of wet days, with froſty nights, the ſeries of complaints, uſual at the ap-

proach of winter, commenced, viz. Rheumatiſm, Eryſipelas, Catarrh, Phthiſis, Hæmorrhagy, Diarrhœa, Inflammation of the lungs, bowels, &c. The Erythematic Sore-throat was likewiſe prevalent, but not attended with any ſymptoms different from thoſe ſtated in the laſt report. It terminated, in one caſe, by an Hemicrania, which commenced daily at nine o'clock, A. M. with a ſlight ſhivering, and went off, with a conſiderable degree of faintneſs, at five o'clock in the afternoon.

As the autumnal ſeaſon always favours the progreſs of infectious diſeaſes, (See page 105,) and much increaſes pulmonic complaints, the inhabitants of London ſhould be more eſpecially careful to avoid contagion from the beginning of September, till there be ſettled, froſty weather; and regularly to put on their winter-dreſſes by the firſt of October.

Coughs and Conſumptions are produced, independently of the variations in temperature, or of the ſmoaky, clogged atmoſphere of London, and often rendered inveterate by different employments injurious to the lungs. Thus hair-dreſſers, bakers, maſons, bricklayers' labourers, laboratory-men, coal-heavers,

heavers, and chimney-ſweepers, are liable to be affected with obſtinate pulmonic diſeaſes; as are alſo, in an equal degree, the dreſſers of flax and feathers, and the workmen in the warehouſes of leather-ſellers.* Many perſons, thus engaged, ſtruggle with a conſtant, hard, troubleſome cough, until it terminate in conſumption, whereas, by a timely removal into purer air, and a ſuitable regimen, they might ſoon have been reſtored to health.†

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* The workmen employed by ſugar-bakers uſe great exertions, are expoſed to ſtrong heat, and often drink immoderately. They are liable to Colds, with other Pulmonic Diſorders, and to the Rheumatiſm. By perſevering in the work for a long time, they become ſallow, emaciated, and dropſical, and die at an early period of life.

† The extractum papaveris albi may be mentioned as an uſeful palliative in Conſumptions, and in tickling Coughs, which remain after the inflammatory ſtage of Catarrh. This remedy is, I believe, generally given in doſes too ſmall to produce any effect: and, therefore, I think it not amiſs to obſerve, that a pill, containing five grains of it, ſhould be given every three, four, or five hours, according to the age and conſtitution of the patient. It may alſo be preſcribed, with advantage, for children in the ſecond ſtage of the Hooping Cough.

Indigeſtion,

Indigeſtion, with acidity, flatulence, naufea, pain, and diſtenſion of the ſtomach, ariſes from other cauſes beſides thoſe which have been mentioned hitherto. In ſome, the fatigue and anxiety, annexed to the extenſive trades carried on in London, produce diſorders of the ſtomach: in others, irregularity as to the quality or time of their meals, and long faſting, have the ſame effect. Merchants, bankers, and other men of buſineſs, alſo counſellors, attorneys, and medical practitioners of every denomination, at ſome ſeaſons of the year, take an early breakfaſt, and return to a late dinner, perhaps after ſuffering much for two or three hours, both from cold and hunger, and from uneaſy ſenſations of faintneſs, ſinking, languor, &c. When the digeſtive powers have thus been previouſly debilitated, the proceſs of digeſtion, after a hearty meal, is ſlow and imperfect. Under ſuch circumſtances, it is not leſs injurious to eat haſtily, and to take ſtrong exerciſe immediately afterwards, than to load the ſtomach with dinner, tea, and ſupper, at one ſitting, a practice uſual among men of buſineſs, as well as men of pleaſure, and likely, if it be long continued, to entail on both of

them

them diſeaſes to which the claſs of ſtomachic medicines, or the ſalubrious waters of Bath and Cheltenham, will not be able to furniſh a certain antidote.

Cutaneous Diſeaſes are often connected with diſorders of the ſtomach, and with the general ſtate of Aſthenia, formerly deſcribed. They originate in London, on very many occaſions, from an habitual neglect of cleanlineſs in workmen and others. Not only the lungs, but the ſkin, muſt be injured by the trades enumerated page 300. And how are the poor, without accommodations for the purpoſe at home, to clear their bodies from the dirt, duſt, and unctuous or adheſive ſubſtances, which various employments faſten on them? There being no proviſion in any part of the metropolis for waſhing or bathing,* they quietly ſuffer the penalties annexed to the want of cleanlineſs, as diſagreeable ſmells, perpetual irritation with chaps and fiſſures on the ſkin, boils, and eruptions of painful, inflamed puſtules, the

* The few medicinal Paths in London are not applied for the purpoſe above-mentioned.

Itch

Itch and Prurigo, the Lepra, the dry Tetter, the running Tetter, the Dandriff, and Scald-head. To plunge into the Thames is difficult and dangerous: we are therefore obliged to tolerate the diſguſting and indecent plan of bathing in the New-River, to which hundreds of men and boys repair every fine day in ſummer, and pollute the water as it flows into our ciſterns. It is not, however, this revolting idea which ſhould ſtimulate us to action: the health and comforts of the poor inhabitants merit a prior conſideration. Indeed, all ranks of ſociety would be greatly benefited by the eſtabliſhment of cold and tepid baths, acceſſible at a moderate expenſe; for, by a ſtrange thoughtleſſneſs, moſt men reſident in London, and very many ladies, though accuſtomed to waſh their hands and face daily, neglect waſhing their bodies from year to year. Hence the perſpiration, condenſed on the ſkin, gradually obſtructs the exhalant pores, thereby producing various internal complaints, and an univerſal itching over the ſurface of the body, to which ſome delicate ſufferers reconcile themſelves, by ſuppoſing a ſcorbutic diſpoſition communicated from their progenitors, without any fault of their

their own. Itching eruptions on the ſkin, often denominated Scurvy, or the Engliſh Malady, will never be eradicated, until bathing or waſhing in warm water become general. The introduction of it, however, is not likely to be the work of phyſicians or philoſophers alone. They muſt firſt influence thoſe who are the leaders of faſhion. Let ſome of our nobility erect baths, on the Oriental plan, in their ſpacious manſions, and, by ſetting an example, induce others to make the practice of bathing habitual. The cuſtom would then ſoon be adopted in every part of the metropolis: and, I have no doubt, the Governors of the City ſtrictly ſo called, whoſe liberality appears on ſo many occaſions, would concur in eſtabliſhing public baths for the uſe of manufacturers, ſervants, labourers, &c. and in providing ſituations and ſupport for others, to be uſed by perſons of a better rank, at a moderate expenſe. In all the cities of antient Greece, baths were erected and regulated under public authority. At Rome, ſplendid edifices of this kind were built for general uſe, and furniſhed with aqueducts, by the munificence of wealthy individuals, ſometimes on patriotic principles, ſometimes with the view of acquiring popularity.

larity. Under the emperors there were once 870 baths in the city and ſuburbs.* The bath of Antoninus Caracalla is ſaid to have been ſo large that it could accommodate, without inconvenience, 1800 perſons at the ſame time. Many of our rich and public-ſpirited citizens have ſingly formed eſtabliſhments of great utility and extent. How much applauſe would that liberal man deſervedly obtain, who ſhould be the firſt to adorn the metropolis of his country, and benefit its inhabitants, by the inſtitution here recommended, — an inſtitution ſo neceſſary for the health and comfort of all!

Although the Oriental and Ruſſian vapour-baths are ſomewhat different from the thermæ of the Romans, yet their good effects are nearly ſimilar. Mr. Tooke's account of

* Agrippa alone built 170 baths for public uſe: "Agrippa "verò in ædilitate ſuâ lacus 700 fecit. Adjecit ipſe in "ædilitatis ſuæ commemoratione gratuita balinea 170, quæ "nunc Romæ ad infinitum auxere numerum." Plin. Nat. Hiſt. lib. xxxvi. cap. 15.

Thoſe, who deſire farther information on the ſubject of baths, need not trouble themſelves to read Vitruvius, Lipſius, &c. They will be ſatisfied with the treatiſe of A. R. Sanchèz, firſt phyſician to the Empreſs of Ruſſia, in the Memoirs of the Royal Medical Society of Paris, vol. iii.

thoſe in Ruſſia is ſo intereſting that I cannot refrain from copying it: "Ruſſia and "Hungary are, at preſent, the only countries, in this quarter of the world, where "it is ſtill the cuſtom to bathe after the "manner of the antients. In Ruſſia, particularly, the bath makes ſo much a part "of the ſyſtem of living, that it is uſed by "people of every age, and in all circumſtances: by infants, women at their lying-in, in almoſt all ſickneſſes, before and after "a journey, after hard work, &c. The "bath is a neceſſary of life ſo indiſpenſable "to the common people, that they frequent "it as often as poſſible, well or ill, at leaſt "once a week.

"The public baths in Ruſſia are under "the care of the police, and let out to "common people on account of the crown: "farther than this, the government takes no "concern either about their erection or management. They uſually conſiſt of mean, "wooden houſes, ſituate, whenever it is "poſſible, by the ſide of a running ſtream. "In the bath-room is a large, vaulted oven, "which, when heated, makes the paving-"ſtones lying upon it red-hot; and adjoining to the oven is a kettle fixed in maſonry,

"for

" for the purpoſe of holding boiling water.
" Round about the walls are three or four
" rows of benches, one above another, like
" the ſeats of a ſcaffold. The room has
" little light, but here and there are aper-
" tures for letting the vapour eſcape; the
" cold water that is wanted being let in by
" ſmall channels. Some baths have an anti-
" chamber for dreſſing and undreſſing; but
" in moſt of them this is done in the open
" court-yard, which, on that account, has
" a boarded fence, and is provided with
" benches of planks.

" By far the majority of the baths are
" conſtructed as they are here deſcribed.
" In the country, in parts where wood is
" ſcarce, they ſometimes conſiſt of miſerable
" caverns, commonly dug in the earth, cloſe
" to the bank of ſome river. In the houſes
" of wealthy individuals, and in the palaces
" of the great, they are formed upon the
" ſame conſtruction, but infinitely more
" elegant and convenient.

" The heat in the bath-room is uſually at
" from 32 to 40 degrees of Reaumur, and that
" greatly increaſed by the throwing of water,
" every five minutes, on the glowing hot
" ſtones in the chamber of the oven. By

" this

" this means, the heat often riſes, eſpecially
" on the uppermoſt bench, to 44 degrees of
" that thermometer. The bathers lie ſtark-
" naked on one of the benches, where they
" perſpire, more or leſs, in proportion to the
" heat of the humid atmoſphere in which
" they are enveloped. In order the better
" to promote perſpiration, and completely to
" open the pores, they are firſt rubbed, and
" then gently flagellated with leafy bunches
" of birch. After remaining awhile, they
" come down from the ſweating-bench, and
" waſh their body with warm or cold water,
" and, at laſt, plunge over head in a large
" tub of water. Many people throw them-
" ſelves immediately from the bath-room
" into the adjoining river, as the youths of
" antient Rome uſed to leap into a pond
" after the violent exerciſe of wreſtling, or
" roll themſelves in the ſnow in a froſt of
" ten or more degrees. The Ruſſian baths,
" therefore, are ſweating-baths, not the
" Roman tepidaria and caldaria of a mo-
" derate warmth, but very violent ſweating-
" baths, which to a perſon unhabituated to
" the practice bring on a real, though a
" gentle and almoſt voluptuous ſwoon.
" They are vapour-baths, not water nor

" yet

" yet dry ſweating-baths: herein they differ
" from all the baths of antiquity, as well
" as from thoſe of the modern Orientals;
" and this is alſo their eſſential excellence,
" that they are beneficial in ſuch a variety
" of caſes where hot-water baths would be
" uſeleſs, or even pernicious. They are
" ſalutary baths, as they promote cleanlineſs,
" aſſiſt the perſpiration, render the ſkin ſoft
" and ſmooth, &c. and not voluptuous
" baths, as among the Greeks and Romans.
" It is not to be doubted that the Ruſſians
" owe their longevity, their robuſt ſtate of
" health, their little diſpoſition to certain
" mortal diſeaſes, and their happy and cheer-
" ful temper, moſtly to theſe baths, though
" climate, aliment, and habit of living, like-
" wiſe contribute their ſhare. The great
" Lord Chancellor Bacon, and other ſagacious
" obſervers of nature, and of mankind, have
" lamented, and certainly not without cauſe,
" that this bathing has fallen into diſuſe
" among the modern nations of Europe, and
" juſtly wiſh the practice back again in all
" our towns and villages. In fact, when
" we conſider that the old phyſicians ſo early
" introduced into their practice this remedy
" of nature's own invention, and employed

" it

"it with ſuch great ſucceſs; when we re-
" collect that Rome, for five hundred years
" together, had no phyſicians, but only
" baths, and that, to this day, a multitude
" of nations cure almoſt all their maladies
" merely by baths; we cannot avoid regard-
" ing the diſmiſſion of them as the epoch of
" a grand revolution which has been wrought
" in the phyſical ſtate of the human race in
" our quarter of the world. The natural per-
" ſpiration, the moſt important of all excre-
" tions, muſt naturally go on better in a
" body conſtantly kept ſoft by bathing. A
" great number of impurities, which privily
" lay in us the train to tedious and dangerous
" diſtempers, are timely removed ere they
" poiſon the blood and the juices. All
" eruptive diſeaſes are abated by bathing,
" conſequently, then, the Small-pox; and,
" if this dreadful diſorder be actually leſs
" fatal in Ruſſia than in other countries,
" this phænomenon need not be attributed
" to any other cauſe than the vapour-
" baths."*

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* View of the Ruſſian Empire, page 256.

Obſer-

Obſervations may now be made, with confidence, on the Vaccine Pock, which has been communicated to more than 30,000 perſons, ſince Dr. Jenner's firſt publication on the ſubject. This new mode of inoculation, when properly conducted, affords a decided and permanent ſecurity from the infection of the Small-pox. Being thus certain in its effects, it is preferable to the inoculation with variolous matter for ſeveral reaſons.

Firſt, It requires no tedious preparation.

Secondly, It may be ſafely performed at any ſeaſon of the year, and at any period of life.

Thirdly, It produces but little pain or fever, and no puſtular eruptions.

Fourthly, The diſeaſe thus inoculated is not communicable by effluvia, or contagion: it can only be transferred to others by fluid taken from the pock while tranſparent, and inſerted under the ſkin.

Fifthly, The Vaccine diſeaſe has not, in any caſes I have ſeen, been ſucceeded by glandular ſwellings, ulcers, cutaneous affections, diſeaſe of the lungs, nor any of the appearances (See page 286), which often occur after the Small-pox, whether produced by

by contagion or inoculation. This circumſtance alone, other advantages not being conſidered, would caſt the balance in favour of the Inoculation with the Vaccine Pock.

This mode of inoculating, in its extenſion over Great Britain, and other countries, muſt have been often conducted by perſons unacquainted with the appearance and courſe of the diſeaſe, ſome of whom perhaps took the matter they employed at ſecond or third hand. Much confuſion, and ſeveral diſagreeable circumſtances have neceſſarily ariſen, which brought the practice into temporary diſcredit. Within the vicinity of London, unfavourable caſes have occurred from the inſertion of wrong matter, or of fluid taken from Vaccine puſtules at an improper time, from uſing impure lancets, from making too large inciſions, &c. Medical practitioners, ſince they had the opportunity of being better acquainted with the form of the Vaccine Pock, of aſcertaining the eaſieſt proceſs in inoculating it, and of readily obtaining genuine matter, have ſeldom fallen into error; nor do we now hear of inflammation, and ſwelling of the arms, of alarming eruptions, nor of phagedenic ulcers at the decline of the diſorder. It has been ſuggeſted that the Va-

riolous and Vaccine fluids may contaminate each other, or, by acting on the human conſtitution at the ſame time, produce an hybrid diſeaſe. This ſuggeſtion does not ſtand the teſt of experiment. When the two fluids are rubbed together, and inoculated by a lancet dipped into the mixture, ſometimes the Vaccine Pock, ſometimes a puſtule of Small-pox, has been produced, the genuine characteriſtics being, in either caſe, retained throughout.* Farther, when Vaccine and Variolous matter are inſerted under the ſkin, ſo nearly together that the two puſtules, thence formed, enlarge till they become one, by inoculating afterwards with the fluid taken from one ſide of it, the Vaccine Pock will alone be produced; whereas the fluid taken from the other ſide excites a variolous puſtule on the arm of the perſon inoculated, and an eruption of Small-pox, in the uſual manner, over the body.† In an adult female, at the Inoculation-Hoſpital, the caſual Small-pox appeared ſix days after the Vaccine diſeaſe had been inoculated, and two variolous

* Sometimes both diſeaſes will be thus produced.

† Dr. Woodville.

puſtules

puſtules aroſe within the circumference of the Vaccine Pock: when theſe were maturated, fluid taken from them on the point of a lancet, and inoculated into another perſon, produced the regular Small-pox: at the ſame time, fluid taken from the Vaccine Pock, at a little diſtance from the ſupervening puſtules, gave the Vaccine diſeaſe in its genuine form, without any eruption.*

It is now fully aſcertained that inoculation with Variolous matter, ſoon after expoſure to the contagion of Small-pox, ſuperſedes the infection, and produces a mild diſeaſe. During the laſt ſummer, I tried, in two inſtances, whether an immediate inoculation with Vaccine fluid would have the ſame favourable effect. This plan was not ſucceſsful, both patients having been affected with the confluent Small-pox, before the vaccine puſtule arrived at its height. Other practitioners, I underſtand, have been, in like manner, diſappointed, whoſe experience may therefore ſerve as a caution to their fellow-labourers not to make, unneceſſarily, a ſimilar trial in dubious ſituations. The Vaccine Pock, inoculated before the febrile ſtage of other eruptive diſeaſes, has little or no effect

* Mr. Wachſel.

in retarding their progreſs,* while paſſing through its own courſe. Having ſtated that Vaccine inoculation will not always ſuperſede the natural Small-pox, in perſons at the ſame time expoſed to contagion, I may advance another ſtep, and obſerve, that, if Vaccine and Variolous matter be inoculated at the ſame time, or within a week of each other, into the ſame perſon, the Vaccine Pock goes through its regular ſtages, and the Variolous puſtule on the arm, after exhibiting the uſual appearances, is ſucceeded by an eruption of Small-pox over the ſurface of the body. From this fact, which has been confirmed by hundreds of trials, ſome inferences may be deduced, which are of material importance. 1. That Vaccine fluid ſhould not be taken, for the purpoſe of inoculation, on a lancet which had been previouſly employed in inoculating the Small-pox. 2. That the Variolous and Vaccine virus do not interfere with each other's action on the human conſtitution, while they are merely in

* This I have obſerved in a caſe of Chicken-pox, and in the Meaſles. The ſame has been noticed by other practitioners.

progreſs,

progreſs, without having had their full operation. 3. That the Vaccine Inoculation is not a preventive with regard to the Small-pox, until its courſe be completed, or, at leaſt, till the inflammation round the Pock be on the decline. From ſome trials I know that the application of the matter of Small-pox will produce no effect after the ninth day of Vaccine inoculation: the exact time of this proceſs, at which the action of the variolous virus is precluded, might be aſcertained by farther experiments.

What has been above ſtated is, I think, confirmed by ſeveral of the caſes in Dr. Woodville's firſt Report on the Variola vaccina,* and may ſerve as an anſwer to various inquiries and ſpeculations on the ſubject. Few or none of the out-patients of the Hoſpital, inoculated with the Vaccine Pock, have puſtules over the body. Dr. Woodville likewiſe obſerves, (Obſervations on the Cow-pox, page 24,) "In my private practice of "inoculation for the Cow-pox, which has "been very extenſive, I have not met with

* See Caſe 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, 26, 28, 30, &c.

" one inſtance in which any puſtules, re-
" ſembling thoſe of the Small-pox, appear-
" ed." My own experience coincides perfectly with this ſtatement: in different families I have ſeen inoculated with Vaccine fluid, occaſionally ſelected by myſelf at the Hoſpital, and taken on new lancets, about ſixty perſons, none of whom had puſtular eruptions,* at the maturation of the pock formed by the puncture. Patients admitted into the Inoculation-Hoſpital have often puſtules on the body, after Vaccine matter has been inſerted in the arm, from the following cauſe: They are moſtly perſons from the country, who, alarmed on finding ſome of the inhabitants of the houſes where they lodge, or viſit, affected with the Small-pox, endeavour to anticipate the diſorder by means of inoculation, at the aſylum opened to them by public benevolence. But the application is probably too late: ſome of them have already received the infection,

* In one child, three minute hard tubercles appeared on the fore-arm, about the ſeventh day, but they ſubſided in two or three days. This little eruption was merely the Strophulus candidus, deſcribed in the Treatiſe on Cutaneous Diſeaſes, page 32.

and,

and, before the Vaccine pock can reach the end of its ſecond ſtage, an eruption of Variolous puſtules takes place in the uſual manner. In attending at the Hoſpital laſt ſummer, while Dr. Woodville was on his miſſion to Paris, I obſerved four inſtances of perſons ſo circumſtanced, in whom the eruptions appeared, on different days, between the third and the eighth from inoculation. The puſtules were diſtinct, but large, and full of matter. After their appearance, I thought the tumor, and Erythema, round the Vaccine Pock, in one or two patients, did not become quite ſo conſiderable, or extenſive, as in unmixed caſes of Vaccine inoculation. When the Small-pox and Vaccine diſeaſe had been inoculated about the ſame time, the eruptions were, in all the caſes I ſaw at the Hoſpital, of the ſpecies vulgarly termed Horn-pock, being hard, and ſemitranſparent. They contained little fluid, and, though of long duration, did not maturate, or break by ſuppuration. Whether we ſhould, from theſe premiſes, infer that the two diſeaſes, when communicated together, limit each other's operation on the human body, ſo that the Small-pox may be checked, or the Vaccine diſeaſe be variolated by inoculation, by

expoſure to an infected atmoſphere, &c. or whether, as I before ventured to conjecture, they go through their courſe, in the ſame perſon, at the ſame time, without influencing each other, muſt be decided by farther experiments. On this ſubject, I truſt, the phyſician of the Small-pox Hoſpital, who has the beſt opportunity of employing the neceſſary teſts, will uſe every exertion in his power; and communicate his obſervations to the public, with his uſual candour.

The number of Puerperal caſes put down in the foregoing liſts, being the reſult of private and public practice unconnected with midwifery, cannot be ſuppoſed to afford any regular proportion between ſuch caſes and other diſeaſes. The mortality among child-bed women in London is leſs than many perſons have conceived, not one in a hundred dying after delivery. A phyſician of eminence, in attending 2982 ladies from the year 1786 to 1800 incluſive, loſt only 30 of his patients; by ſudden and violent Hæmorrhagy 6; premature Labour 1; Pulmonary Conſumption 3; Lumbar Abſceſs 1; Pneumonia 1; Enteritis 1; Rupture of the uterus 1; Scarlet Fever 4; Convulſions 4; Apoplexy,

plexy, with retention of urine, 1; Suddenly, without any previous complaint, 8; Puerperal Fever 5.

The ſimple puerperal Fever begins generally on the ſecond or third day after delivery, with ſlight ſhiverings and interchanges of heat many times a day, a very quick pulſe, and a white tongue, on which the papillæ appear red and enlarged. Theſe ſymptoms are attended with or ſucceeded by ſevere uterine pains, pain and tenderneſs of the abdomen, vomiting of bile, head-ache, pain between the eyes, or ſometimes at the root of the noſe, coldneſs of the feet, a very ſcanty ſecretion of milk, delirium, and, in dangerous caſes, ſtupor. The puerperal diſeaſe, under this form, may be relieved, in moſt caſes, by the plan formerly recommended for peritoneal Inflammation (See page 73). When a Child-bed Fever is epidemic and contagious, the above ſymptoms are connected with the Scarlatina or malignant Fever. Particular ſituations and particular ſeaſons favour ſuch a complication, which is uſually fatal. Within the period comprized by theſe Reports, I have not ſeen the puerperal and malignant Fever combined; but during the years 1796 and 1797,

particularly the latter, very many women, after lying-in, became feveriſh, and were preſently affected with the Scarlatina anginoſa. The four fatal caſes in the phyſician's liſt, page 320, occurred in 1797. He obſerved, that, a week after the death of two other ladies, apparently from Puerperal Fever, the children in both houſes took the Scarlet Fever. I underſtood from other practitioners that many of their patients, about the ſame period, had the Scarlatina anginoſa, with or without a raſh, and that the diſeaſe proved fatal to more than half of them. Hence we may account for the great number of deaths, under the article Child-bed, in the Bills of Mortality for 1796 and 1797, when compared with thoſe of ſeveral preceding, and of the three ſucceeding years. On farther comparing the Bills of Mortality, at the end of the century, with others publiſhed about the middle of it, or in the foregoing century, it will appear that the fatality of puerperal diſeaſes is, on the whole, greatly reduced. Of this point, an abſtract from the ſtatement given by the Directors of the Britiſh Lying-in-Hoſpital, will afford another convincing proof.

YEARS.

YEARS.	Proportion of Deaths.	
	Of the Women.	Of the Children.
From Nov. 23, 1749, to Dec. 31, 1758	1 in 42 + $\frac{16}{78}$	1 in 15 + $\frac{108}{216}$
From 1759 to 1768 inclusive	1 in 50 + $\frac{73}{94}$	1 in 20 + $\frac{46}{139}$
1769 to 1778	1 in 53 + $\frac{19}{106}$	1 in 42 + $\frac{74}{134}$
1779 to 1788	1 in 60 + $\frac{53}{94}$	1 in 44 + $\frac{83}{122}$
1789 to 1798	1 in 288 + $\frac{1}{21}$	1 in 77 + $\frac{33}{79}$
In 1799 and 1800	1 in 913	1 in 115 + $\frac{6}{8}$

This

This Table likewiſe ſhews to what extent the lives of infants may be preſerved by proper attention and management. Where ſuch attention is paid, neither the mother nor children are affected with miliary Fever, miliary Eruptions, Aphthæ, or diſorders of the bowels. The poor, who are both ill ſituated in London, and obliged to return to work ſoon after delivery, find a minute attention to their own offspring impoſſible: the devaſtation among infants is therefore dreadful. It appears from the Bills of Mortality, that one-third of all that are born in London die before they reach two years of age. I can only at preſent mention this circumſtance as a melancholy conſideration, not being able to ſuggeſt any plan for removing evils of ſo great a magnitude.

The Puerperal Œdema begins often ſuddenly with a ſenſation like the cramp: a violent pain then ſettles in the groin for ſome days, but afterwards extends, along the thigh, to the ham, and below it, affecting particularly the calf of the leg. Soon after the pain is felt, the thigh and leg are affected with a conſiderable ſwelling, which is not red or inflamed, but pale, ſhining, and ſo hard that no pits are left in it from preſſure. The

inguinal

inguinal glands are, at firſt, ſometimes enlarged and painful: the lymphatics may alſo be traced along the limb, being hard and corded. This diſorder occurs as frequently after eaſy as after laborious parturition, and, in general, affects the left ſide. In many caſes, however, a ſimilar ſwelling takes place, within eight or ten days, in the right thigh and leg; the pain then ceaſes in the left, and pits remain after preſſure. The œdema is preceded by a very quick and weak pulſe, and by an offenſive diſcharge from the Vagina. Its duration is five or ſix weeks. The limb firſt affected recovers laſt; and it ſometimes remains in a ſtate of weakneſs for a year after the ſwelling has ſubſided. A conſiderable number of leeches applied to the groin, and upper part of the thigh, at the commencement of the diſorder, in many caſes relieves the pain, and ſeems to prevent the ſudden enlargement of the limb. It may be remarked, that the Scirrhus, or Cancer of the uterus, which produces an offenſive diſcharge from the Vagina, is ſometimes attended with an œdema ſimilar to that in puerperal caſes.*

* Dr. John Sims.

Scirrhus

Scirrhus of the uterus, and ovaria, occaſionally affects women who have had children, but is more frequent in thoſe who are childleſs. However, when only the neck of the womb is in a diſeaſed ſtate, this does not prevent conception. I muſt obſerve, that the number of theſe caſes is, for the reaſon above ſpecified, much greater than the proportion ſtated in my liſts of Chronic Diſeaſes. In noticing ſuch caſes I have to lament the deplorable ſituation to which delicate females, labouring under them, are reduced, and the total inefficacy of cicuta and every other remedy yet propoſed for their alleviation. Opium is highly advantageous as a temporary antidote to bodily pains, and wounded ſenſibility; but how dreadful is the ſtate of thoſe who, by the aſſiſtance of this drug alone, can render exiſtence tolerable!

The deaths recorded in the Bills of Mortality, under the article Lunatic, have increaſed within the laſt two years. It is ſuppoſed, from this and other conſiderations, that maniacal caſes become every day more frequent; but I believe there is no ſufficient ground for this opinion. The number of patients in Bethlem, St. Luke's, and other hoſpitals,

hoſpitals, is nearly uniform.* Private houſes for the reception of Lunatics have not, within ten years, been increaſed: they amount at preſent to twenty-five, licenſed by commiſſioners, appointed under an act of parliament, with juriſdiction over a circle of ſeven miles radius, the College of Phyſicians being the centre. The number of patients, in theſe houſes, varies from 5 to 345. Many of the wretched inhabitants are perſons of the loweſt rank, admitted at a moderate expenſe, having injured their conſtitutions, and deſtroyed their intellects, by exceſs in drinking ſpirits, and by the improper uſe of mercury. Thoſe of the ſuperior order, whom their friends conſign to theſe manſions of ſecurity, are not the victims of diſappointed ambition, or of inordinate affections; not diſſipated females ſunk to ruin by their extravagance, nor men who have ſuddenly loſt their all in the whirlpools of St. James's Street: but reſidents nearer to the Royal Exchange; ſome of them ſhattered by unhealthy climates, ſome

* Seldom amounting to more than 600. Theſe, with the patients confined in private houſes near London, do not exceed 2000.

by

by overſtraining the faculties, both of body and mind, in the acquiſition of wealth; ſome ruined by deceiving, and, perhaps, ſelf-deceived projectors, others by the moſt daring commercial ſpeculations; and a few whoſe underſtanding has been overſet by miſtaken views of religion. The proportion of individuals is ſmall in whom the diſeaſe can be traced to hereditary prediſpoſition, without the intervention of ſome manifeſt exciting cauſe.

Phrenetical caſes, of a ſhort duration, were more numerous than uſual in Auguſt, and the ſucceeding autumnal months. The diſeaſe* affected perſons of a debilitated conſtitution, who had previouſly had an irregular pulſe, and were liable to frequent head-aches. It began with diſorder of the bowels, loſs of ſleep, palpitation, tremors, and moſt excruciating pain of the head: theſe ſymptoms were ſoon followed by occaſional delirium, or confuſion of ideas; and, finally, by an inceſſant raving which obliterated all cor-

* This phrenetical diſorder muſt be conſidered as wholly diſtinct from the violent delirium connected with Fever; page 284. The complaint is not properly noticed or arranged by noſologiſts.

poreal

poreal ſenſations, and by a degree of violence requiring active coercion. Three patients, out of five, died under theſe deplorable circumſtances, being ſoon exhauſted by the want of reſt, and conſtant agitation. In ſome, the febrile ſtate ceaſed at the end of a month; and they regained both their ſtrength and intellect two or three weeks afterwards.

The General Bill of Mortality, for the year 1800, ſpecifies a remarkable increaſe of deaths from Fevers, and is a collateral proof of the extenſive diffuſion and virulence of contagious Fevers ſince the autumn of 1799 (See page 254). Their fatality was continued to the end of 1800, no ſettled froſt having taken place in the month of December. The total number of deaths in 1799 was leſs than that in 1800 by 4934. This laſt year appears to have been moſt deſtructive to infants under two years of age, and to old people; 6657 having died of the former; of the latter, 2219 above 70 years of age. An increaſed mortality may alſo be remarked on inſpecting, in the laſt Table, the articles of Conſumption and Aſthma, Dropſy, Water in the head, Small-pox, Meaſles, Pleuriſy, external Inflammation, and Mortification.

Hence

Hence it will appear that extremes of heat are not, in this climate, leſs detrimental, even in pulmonic diſeaſes, than an extreme degree of cold (See pages 86, 212). How much a moderate and uniform temperature contributes to leſſen the annual mortality among us, may be ſeen from Dr. Fothergill's account of the Weather and Diſeaſes in 1751, 1752, 1753, and from the annual Bills for the ſame, compared with thoſe of the years immediately preceding or ſucceeding.

On farther comparing the London Bills of Mortality, at the middle and cloſe of the ſeventeenth century, with thoſe of the eighteenth century, it will appear:

Firſt, That continued and intermittent Fevers were much more fatal, in proportion to other complaints, formerly, than at preſent.

Secondly, That the Dyſentery, and other diſorders of the bowels were, 150 years ago, attended with a greater degree of fatality than we now experience.

Thirdly, That the deaths from Convulſions muſt be referred chiefly to infants; chriſoms and infants having been gradually reſolved into the article of Convulſions (See page 96).

Fourthly,

Fourthly, That Croup* is an article but of very modern date.

Fifthly, That the articles of Cough, Conſumption, and Aſthma, or Hydrothorax (termed Stoppage in the ſtomach), have at all times predominated.

Laſtly, it will appear, although the population of London muſt be ſuppoſed increaſing, that the annual mortality has, in 50 years, been greatly diminiſhed. This may be referred partly to the numerous improvements made in the City, which have contributed to preſerve the health of its inhabitants: but partly I truſt to the more accurate application and greater certainty of the medical art in the treatment of diſeaſes, by attaining which our profeſſion has been rendered more extenſively beneficial to mankind.

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* The denomination is perhaps incorrect: I have only ſeen three caſes of the diſeaſe, properly ſo called, in twenty years. It affects infants, or very young children, to whom it is ſuddenly fatal by producing, in the trachea, an inflammatory cruſt, which obſtructs reſpiration. The formation of this cruſt may be ſometimes prevented by a quick emetic, and by applying leeches immediately afterwards.

Abſtract of the Bills of Mortality, from the Year 1650 *to* 1656 *inclusive.*

Diſeaſes.	A.D. 1650.	1651.	1652.	1653.	1654.	1655.	1656.
Apoplexy and ſuddenly	74	106	111	113	86	92	102
Purples and Spotted Fever	65	54	60	75	89	56	52
Ague and Fever	970	1033	1212	232	1371	659	875
Bloody Flux, Scouring, and Flux,	239	833	762	2 9	386	168	363
Cancer, Gangrene, and Fiſtula	19	31	53	35	37	73	31
Chriſoms and Infants	990	1237	1230	1050	1348	1089	1383
Convulſions	493	569	653	606	823	702	1027
Cough and Conſumption	1988	2350	2410	2236	2368	2606	3134
Flox and Small-pox	184	525	1279	139	812	1294	823
French Pox	18	21	20	20	20	29	23
King's Evil	19	22	20	26	26	27	24
Gout	9	7	7	5	6	8	7
Lethargy	4	4	4	3	10	9	4
Lunatic	11	7	11	9	12	6	7
Meaſles	38	38	62	8	52	11	153
Pleuriſy	20	23	29	17	23	10	9
Quinſy and Sore-throat	17	24	30	18	9	15	13
Swine Pox	—	—	—	1	4	2	1
Total Mortality	9,764	10,467	12,684	10,037	13,247	11,377	13,921

Abſtract of the Bills of Mortality, from the Year 1696 *to* 1700 *incluſive.*

Diſeaſes.	A. D. 1696.	1697.	1698.	1699.	1700.
Ague and Fever	2775	3111	3343	3505	3676
Apoplexy and ſuddenly	109	117	116	106	104
Bleeding, Bloody Flux, and Flux	13	16	25	21	13
Child-bed	232	293	169	244	240
Chriſoms and Infants	102	85	59	70	78
Convulſions	4480	4944	4480	4513	4631
Conſumption and Tiſſic	3471	3820	3593	3351	2019
Evil	88	71	59	64	83
Flox, Small-pox, and Meaſles	196	634	1813	890	1031
French-Pox	76	59	66	64	69
Gout, Cramp, and Sciatica	18	16	14	13	15
Lethargy	11	7	7	6	5
Lunatic	4	27	19	20	35
Palſy	17	27	21	24	31
Pleuriſy	14	42	32	25	30
Quinſy	9	9	10	10	10
Rickets	426	522	278	306	393
Spotted Fever and Purples	102	137	274	306	189
St. Anthony's Fire	7	9	4	4	9
Teeth	1225	1353	135	2268	1159
Total Mortality	18,638	20,970	20,183	20,795	19,443

Abſtract of the Bills of Mortality, from the Year 1746 *to* 1752 *inclusive.*

Diſeaſes.	A.D. 1746.	1747.	1748.	1749.	1750.	1751.	1752.
Aged	2424	2010	2127	1983	1896	1688	1263
Ague	15	8	9	15	11	7	2
Apoplexy and ſuddenly . .	253	194	222	239	227	208	178
Aſthma and Tiſſic	553	416	599	410	468	427	289
Bleeding	4	3	5	8	3	7	3
Bloody Flux	21	6	10	7	8	3	3
Cancer	50	47	40	35	46	46	53
Canker	3	4	6	6	4	4	6
Child-bed	188	207	197	187	228	172	156
Colic, Gripes, &c.	119	160	111	148	145	114	123
Conſumption	4887	4562	4487	4623	4543	4182	3558
Convulſions	6952	6783	5948	6128	5837	5594	5431
Cough and Hooping Cough	95	151	150	82	55	275	188

Diabetes	—	3	2	1	1	—	—
Dropſy	1196	1133	1012	1036	1051	1000	680
Evil	20	17	9	16	14	14	21
Fever, malignant Fever, Scarlet Fever, Spotted Fever, and Purples	4167	4779	3981	4458	4294	3219	2070
Fiſtula	14	13	5	5	8	8	17
Flux	40	28	47	38	24	21	10
French Pox	100	69	73	73	73	75	54
Gout	60	52	47	48	59	38	40
Gravel, Stone, and Strangury	24	31	32	22	30	28	28
Headmouldſhot, Horſeſhoe-head, and Water in the head	148	150	93	116	107	115	85
Jaundice	130	139	164	147	186	121	115
Impoſthume	19	12	20	18	17	13	17

Bills of Mortality, from the Year 1746 *to* 1752 *inclusive* CONTINUED.

Inflammation	88	53	34	40	41	38	33
Itch	6	6	5	1	5	2	—
Leprosy	5	6	7	2	5	3	3
Lethargy	4	3	6	9	11	10	8
Livergrown	2	1	1	2	1	—	2
Lunatic	90	53	59	62	66	76	69
Measles	250	81	10	106	321	21	111
Miscarriage	3	6	7	3	3	4	5
Mortification	251	227	231	201	259	225	199
Palsy	61	52	80	86	105	75	80
Pleurisy	43	31	76	36	34	26	23
Quinsey	17	24	18	13	16	10	8
Rash	3	8	6	6	4	6	2
Rheumatism	22	10	7	20	21	20	6
Rickets	39	36	15	25	21	23	11
Rising of the Lights	5	4	—	5	1	5	4
Scald-head	2	1	2	5	1	1	3

Sore-throat	1	6	5	3	7	3	3
St. Anthony's Fire	1	4	—	4	3	4	4
Small-pox	3236	1380	1789	2625	1229	998	3538
Scurvy	3	5	5	5	4	7	5
Sores and Ulcers	28	28	18	13	22	27	15
Stoppage in the ſtomach	102	81	38	32	10	9	10
Surfeit	5	5	3	3	—	—	1
Swelling	3	3	1	1	3	4	5
Teeth	1309	1283	1064	1147	1109	1053	968
Thruſh	121	144	94	152	111	95	99
Tympany	2	—	1	3	3	4	2
Vapours	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
Vomiting and Looſeneſs	7	11	11	6	8	8	5
Worms	12	8	2	9	5	10	7
Total Mortality	28,157	25,494	23,869	25,516	23,727	21,028	20,485

Abſtract of the Bills of Mortality, from the Year 1795 *to* 1800 *inclusive.*

Diſeaſes.	A.D. 1795.	1796.	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
Abortive and Still-born	738	761	645	594	580	492
Abſceſs and Impoſthume	42	27	25	26	26	37
Aged	1637	997	1283	1117	1343	1742
Ague	10	6	5	8	3	2
Apoplexy and ſuddenly	220	225	214	224	249	252
Aſthma and Phthiſic	950	326	538	426	674	809
Bedridden	15	8	6	2	2	3
Bleeding	17	16	11	22	16	9
Burſten and Rupture	16	19	18	18	20	15
Cancer	79	66	97	17	48	58
Chicken-pox and Swine-pox	2	2	9	—	2	2
Child-bed	142	202	198	144	131	164
Colds	56	11	15	4	14	27
Colic, Gripes, &c.	8	14	5	13	8	11

Conſumption	5735	4265	4767	4533	4843	5721
Convulſions	4758	3798	3804	3663	3794	4512
Cough and Hooping Cough	311	536	367	418	451	380
Cow-pox	—	—	—	—	—	1
Croup	17	23	14	14	16	13
Diabetes	1	—	—	1	1	—
Dropſy	997	727	832	784	906	1003
Evil and Rickets	4	7	2	5	5	6
Falling Sickneſs and St. Vitus's Dance	—	1	1	—	1	—
Fevers of all kinds	1947	1547	1530	1754	1784	2712
Fiſtula	5	3	7	3	3	6
Flux, Vomiting, and Looſeneſs	13	9	12	12	5	11
French Pox	22	22	24	39	23	27
Gout	116	109	114	111	91	105
Gravel, Stone, and Strangury	26	32	28	16	11	16
Grief	6	6	3	7	4	5
Head-ache	1	4	5	—	—	2

Bills of Mortality, from the Year 1795 *to* 1800 *inclusive,* CONTINUED.

Headmouldſhot, Horſe-ſhoe-head, and Water in the head	81	72	67	67	76	82
Jaundice	56	72	64	69	78	67
Jaw locked	1	2	3	2	1	1
Inflammation	466	368	389	384	433	593
Itch and Leproſy	1	—	2	1	3	1
Lethargy	2	4	3	1	—	2
Livergrown	3	2	2	7	10	3
Lunatic	91	87	94	83	107	162
Meaſles	328	307	222	196	223	395
Miſcarriage	6	—	10	2	3	4
Mortification	262	207	206	262	226	242
Palpitation of the heart	1	—	—	1	2	2
Palſy	76	73	99	86	105	122
Pleuriſy	11	14	14	15	14	37
Quinſy	2	4	4	5	1	1
Raſh	—	1	1	—	1	1

Rheumatiſm	3	4	4	3	3	5
Scurvy	4	3	3	4	3	5
Small-pox	1040	3548	522	2237	1111	2409
Sore-throat	23	21	12	12	12	1
Sores and Ulcers	5	10	11	11	12	8
Spaſm and Cramp	6	1	—	2	3	5
St. Anthony's Fire	1	4	2	4	—	—
Swelling	—	3	4	—	—	—
Teeth	495	361	359	370	335	414
Thruſh	61	50	46	49	35	33
Worms	18	12	4	3	11	15
Total Mortality	21,179	19,288	17,014	18,155	18,134	23,068
Died under two years of age	6466	6772	5111	5728	5211	6657
Died upwards of one hundred	4	3	4	2	2	8

1796.	Six's Thermometer without.			Thermometer without.			Thermometer within.			Barometer.			Hygrometer.			Rain.
	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.
January . .	56	36	47,3	55	38	47,5	62	51	57,2	30,32	29,00	29,72	86	73	79,5	2,128
February . .	56	30	41,7	55,5	30,5	41,7	58,5	51	55,0	30,31	29,05	29,81	86	66	76,3	1,143
March . . .	60	26,5	41,0	59	27	41,4	60	47	54,0	30,44	29,50	30,03	84	58	70,7	0,674
April . . .	70	36	50,9	68,5	39	51,4	61,5	55	59,8	30,32	29,08	30,04	82	59	70,4	0,302
May	65	39	52,7	64	44	54,0	63	57	60,4	30,22	29,24	29,73	85	63	71,4	2,301
June	80	45	58,8	78	49	59,8	68,5	59	62,2	30,31	29,14	29,96	83	59	69,7	0,536
July	77,5	44,5	61,2	76,5	50	62,0	67	60	64,1	30,18	29,37	29,79	86	61	71,2	1,904
Auguſt . . .	80	48,5	62,5	80	52	63,7	72	64	67,2	30,41	29,71	30,06	83	59	71,5	0,529
September .	79,8	45	61,9	78	46	61,4	72	61	66,1	30,28	29,16	29,96	88	65	75,1	1,541
October . .	59	30	48,7	59	32	48,9	61	54,5	57,8	30,55	29,17	29,91	86	65	77,2	1,803
November .	57	29	42,2	57	29	42,2	60	50	54,3	30,29	29,18	29,83	88	68	80,0	1,209
December .	51,5	4	32,1	49	5	32,1	53	43	47,5	30,51	29,24	29,83	90	73	81,9	1,309
Whole year,			50,1			50,5			58,3			29,89			74,6	14,779

1797.	Six's Thermometer without.			Thermometer without.			Thermometer within.			Barometer.			Hygrometer.			Rain.
	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.
January . .	49	25	37,3	49	25	37,7	56	45	51,2	30,50	29,52	30,09	90	69	85,1	0,960
February . .	50	24,5	37,5	50	25	37,9	57	50	53,3	30,62	29,37	30,31	88	67	81,1	0,219
March . . .	54	27,5	39,9	54	29	40,2	59	51	54,3	30,48	29,44	29,94	86	60	76,6	0,777
April . . .	65	34	47,4	65	35	47,8	62	55	57,8	30,13	29,10	29,77	87	63	77,3	1,859
May	79	34	53,8	78	40	55,4	68	56	61,5	30,33	29,38	29,89	90	61	75,1	1,436
June	73	40	57,5	73	45	58,6	65	59	61,8	30,29	29,36	29,86	85	64	74,3	4,223
July	85	48	65,8	84	55	66,7	74	62	67,4	30,25	29,51	29,96	83	64	74,6	1,288
Auguſt . . .	76	48	61,9	76	52	62,6	69	63	66,1	30,18	29,48	29,87	88	66	76,4	2,789
September .	71	42	56,9	69	45	57,5	67	60	62,2	30,14	29,04	29,75	90	65	79,8	4,061
October . .	63	35	49,0	62	35	49,6	62	53	57,5	30,31	29,05	29,83	90	67	81,3	2,001
November .	57	27	43,3	57	27	43,4	59	49	55,0	30,48	29,14	29,92	91	73	85,0	1,473
December .	56	29	42,7	56	30	43,0	60	49	54,9	30,46	29,07	29,80	91	70	84,5	1,611
Whole year,			49,4			50,0			58,6			29,92			79,2	22,697

1798.	Six's Thermometer without.			Thermometer without.			Thermometer within.			Barometer.			Hygrometer.			Rain.
	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Deg.	Deg	Deg.	Inches.
January . .	53	23	39,6	53	29	40,1	59	49	53,5	30,52	28,96	29,94	90	73	82,3	1,105
February . .	54	24	39,9	54	24	40,1	58	49	54,2	30,76	2 ,23	30,11	90	71	82,2	0,693
March . . .	58	30	42,9	58	30	42,9	61	50	55,4	30,37	2 ,18	29,93	90	68	79,8	0,333
April . . .	69	30	51,6	69	31	52,7	66	53	59,8	30,32	28,27	29,96	—	—	—	0,517
May	76	43	56,5	75	46	57,3	66	58	60,6	30,44	29,11	30,00	69	30	51,4	1,621
June	86	47	64	86	51	64,8	71	62	65,8	30,42	2 ,55	30,07	69	32	50 1	0,960
July	78	51	63,9	76	54	64,4	72	64	65,9	30,17	29,36	2 ,80	74	38	55,8	2,379
Auguſt . . .	83	52	65,6	82	55	63,9	72	66	68,5	30,35	29,70	30,09	70	41	—	1,525
September .	76	44	58,9	76	45	59,2	70	58	64,2	30,26	28,97	29,78	73	37	—	2,437
October . . .	64	32	51,8	63	33	2,4	63	57	60,7	30,39	29 16	29,90	82	45	—	3,123
November .	60	25	41,6	60	25	42,4	62	48	55,4	30,27	2 ,69	29,58	93	57	—	3,056
December .	50	11	35,2	50	14	35,5	57	38	50,3	30,58	28,27	29,90	95	53	—	0,857
Whole year,			51,0			51,3			59,5			29,92				19,411

1799.	Six's Thermometer without.			Thermometer without.			Thermometer within.			Barometer.			Hygrometer.			Rain.
	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	Greateſt height.	Leaſt height.	Mean height.	
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches.
January . .	50	20	35,1	50	23	35,6	55	41	49,0	30,43	29 25	29,98	86	61	79,1	0,349
February . .	56	18	38,2	56	22	38,7	60	42	51,0	30,26	28,88	29,70	92	57	75,2	2,235
March . . .	56	28	39,3	56	28	39,4	62	49	53,6	30,23	29,31	29,84	—	—	—	0,433
April . . .	59	28	44,1	56	30	44,7	58	47	54,3	30,23	23,75	29,62	—	—	—	1,671
May	70	36	52,4	70	40	53,2	62	54	58,7	30,38	29,33	29,84	—	—	—	1,749
June	77	43	58,1	77	49	59,4	67	58	62,1	30,41	29,18	30,04	—	—	—	0,552
July	77	48	62,3	77	52	63,1	68	62	64,9	30,18	29,22	29,82	—	—	—	2,913
Auguſt . . .	73	47	60,4	72	51	61,1	66	62	63,3	30,12	29,26	29,81	78	45	59,8	2,209
September .	72	44	56,4	71	46	57,2	67	60	62,1	30,40	29,04	29,82	83	45	63,9	2,824
October . .	63	35	49,6	63	35	49,7	63	55	59,5	30,37	29,34	29,80	88	53	69,4	2,191
November .	53	32	44,7	58	32	45,0	60	53	56,1	30,40	23,82	29,87	87	55	71,9	1,587
December .	50	17	34,3	50	17	34,7	57	43	50,4	30,54	29,19	29,93	85	60	71,1	0,349
Whole year,			47,9			48,5			57,1			29,84				19,662

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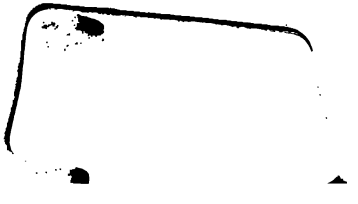
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